Hafa Adai!

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CCC chairman questions IPI's logic on exclusivity issue. PAGE 3
Cardiac arrest reportedly led to San Vicente crash. PAGE 5

75¢

CUC cuts power to CHC

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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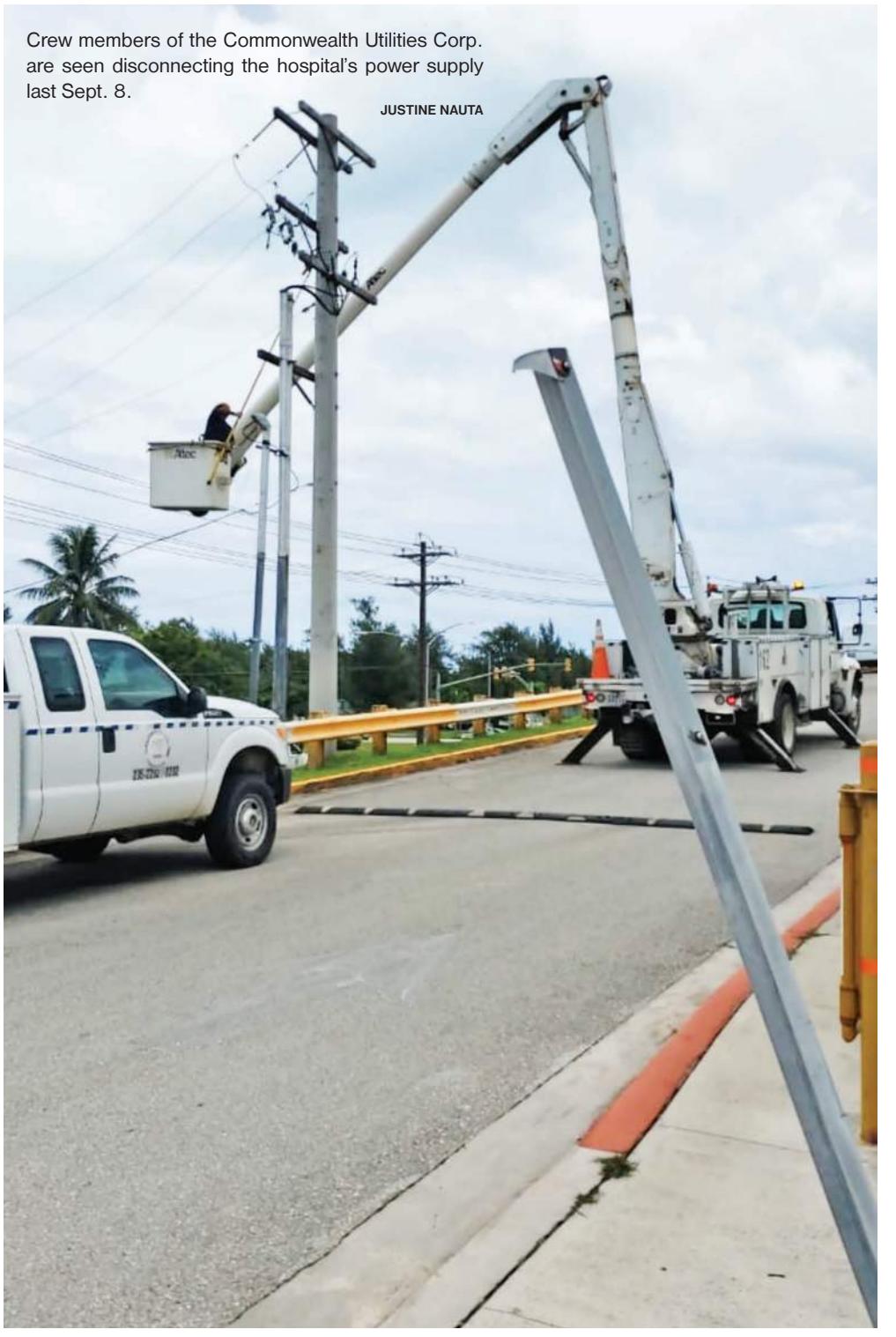
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. followed through yesterday with its threat to disconnect the Commonwealth Health Center's power supply for six hours every day.

A CUC crew cut off the power supply to the hospital at about 12:30pm yesterday, at the instruction of the CUC board and CUC chief Gary Camacho. This means CHCC's backup power generator will be used to run the hospital for six hours daily.

See CUC on Page 4



Crew members of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. are seen disconnecting the hospital's power supply last Sept. 8.

JUSTINE NAUTA

1 more traveler tests positive

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

With more flights coming into the CNMI, it is almost unsurprising that another traveler tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday, raising the CNMI's total number of positive cases to 59.

See TRAVELER on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, Sept. 8, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	1,619	52	1,671
Recovered	744	0	744
Active	860	52	912
Deaths	18	1	19
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested		40,739	

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	58	1	59
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested		13,540*	

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted to not report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

PSS kicks off school year with inspections

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

The first day of school usually means campuses that are crowded with children showing off their new stuff but this was nowhere in sight as the new school year started yesterday in the middle of a global pandemic.

With classes being mostly done online and with hardly any students on campus, the Public School System still kicked off its school year

See PSS on Page 4

OPA says Rev&Tax unable to detect underreported hotel tax

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Office of the Public Auditor has found that the Division of Revenue and Taxation does not have procedures in place to effectively detect underreported hotel occupancy tax, or HOT.

Public Auditor Michael Pai informed Finance Secretary David Atalig last Sept. 2 of this finding, saying OPA did the audit to determine if Rev&Tax has adequate procedures to detect underreported HOT and unlicensed businesses that should pay the HOT.

Pai said any further delay in bringing all operators, includ-

See OPA on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

BUSINESS
Tbar serves unique beverages such as milk tea, flavored teas, and Vietnamese iced coffee.
PAGE 11

NATION
The Lost Summer of 2020 drew to a close with Labor Day gatherings canceled across the U.S.
PAGE 12

ASIA
The Philippine president has pardoned a U.S. Marine convicted of killing a transgender woman.
PAGE 13

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

IPI, Red Coral told to find alternative solution to dispute

The District Court for the NMI has ordered Red Coral Corp., which does business as Camille Gardenia, and Imperial Pacific International LLC to settle their rental dispute some other way.

District Court for the NMI chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered Red Coral and IPI to go through arbitration, defined online as an alternative form of dispute resolution and is a way to resolve disputes outside the courts.

Manglona stated in her order that the parties are bound by mutual agreement to participate in arbitration administered by a qualified CNMI or Guam lawyer, pursuant to the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association.

Manglona said the arbitration should be done no later than 45 days following the issuance of her order, after which she will enforce any award, settlement or judgment agreed to by both parties.

Red Coral earlier asked the court to compel IPI to a binding arbitration regarding its nonpayment of residential lease. On Sept. 2, Red Coral and IPI filed a stipulation stating that IPI agreed that it was contractually bound to participate in an arbitration and would do so.

Manglona, following her order, has since vacated the hearing set for Sept. 17 and denied the petition of Red Coral as moot. She also ordered the clerk of court to close the case.

Colin Thompson, representing Red Coral, said IPI and Red Coral entered into a lease agreement that contains an arbitration clause requiring either party to arbitrate their disputes arising from the lease.

Thompson said IPI breached the lease agreement by failing to pay rent and destroying or taking furniture, fixtures, and other property belonging to Red Coral when it vacated the premises.

Thompson added that Red Coral sent several demand letters as well as a demand to arbitrate but IPI had not responded to any of those demands. Without cooperation from IPI, Red Coral could not arbitrate its dispute as required under the lease agreement.

Back in July 15, 2016, Red Coral leased 20 apartment units to IPI for a term of three years ending on Sept. 1, 2019. However, IPI allegedly failed to pay any rent to Red Coral for the months of January through August 2019. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

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1 Night Stay in our Deluxe Garden View Room
*Free Upgrade to our Oceanview Room (Upon Availability)
Romantic Dinner for Two at Kevin's
Choose from our Two 4-Course Set Menus options
Enjoy complimentary welcome glass of Sparkling Wine
Complimentary Early Check-In @ 10:00am
Complimentary Late Check-Out @ 5:00pm
50% Off on all beverages for your entire stay
10% Off Couple's Massages at ARC Spa
Special Package! $180 Per Night +15% Tax
MAKE IT EXTRA SPECIAL
Oceanfront Suite
1 Night Stay in our Deluxe Oceanfront Suite
Romantic Dinner for Two at Kevin's
Choose from our Four 4-Course Set Menus options
Enjoy complimentary welcome glass of Sparkling Wine
Complimentary Early Check-In @ 10:00am
Complimentary Late Check-Out @ 5:00pm
50% Off on all beverages for your entire stay
10% Off all ARC Café Items
10% Off Couple's Massages at ARC Spa
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ARC
AQUA RESORT CLUB
Saipan
*Special Rate valid for stay duration within September 7-30, 2020
*Reservations available on Friday and Saturday only
*Benefits may not be transferred, exchanged or redeemed for cash
*Benefits may not be combined with any other specials or promotions.
*All benefits should be used during stay duration checked-in times only
*Facilities and benefits are for the use of registered guests only
*Valid CNMI or Guam resident ID required for special promotional rate

House OKs bills that allow online CEC meeting, suspend some election laws

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed yesterday a Senate bill that suspends certain CNMI election laws for the Nov. 3 general elections to mitigate public health risks due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The House also unanimously passed Senate Bill 21-67, SDI, that amends the election law to allow a member of the Commonwealth Election Commission to attend and vote in an official meeting using a telephone, video, or other electronic means. The bill, introduced by Sen. Sixto K. Igisomar (R-Saipan), will now go to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for signature.

Except for Rep. Janet U. Maratita (R-Saipan), who was absent, all 19 House members present voted to pass Senate Bill 21-68, SD2 HSI.

The bill, which was also introduced by Igisomar and recently passed by the Senate, will adjust the early voting time and add more polling places. It will extend the hours of operations for early voting and election day.

The legislation will also authorize the Commonwealth Election Commission to collect absentee ballots seven days before the general election and 14 days after.

The bill will give CEC the flexibility to make changes to the election procedures if necessary to mitigate the public health risks due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez, CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol, CEC legal counsel Jonathan Robert Glass Jr., and Office of the Public Auditor counsel Ashley Kost were present at the session to respond to some of the lawmakers' questions.

Igitol stated that they have coordinated their plans with the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force and that election workers will be wearing face masks, face shields, and gloves on election day.

Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan) expressed concern that there's lack of time with this bill because it has to go to the Senate again and that the election is approaching.

In a later interview, Rep. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) said the only thing that they changed in the bill have to do with the early voting period for Saipan and the Northern Islands, Rota, and Tinian, plus changes in the collection and processing of absentee ballots.

"What we're changing is to extend the period that we can accept these absentee ballots. But the rest of this language is already in the current law," Sablan said.

She said the other thing that they are changing is the requirement that all five commissioners have to get together to inspect each of these ballots. "We are allowing them to designate two people. It could be two commissioners, it could be two of the staff who, with OPA, will then do this work of processing absentee ballots. But we're giving that flexibility to CEC," Sablan said.

What should I look for in a hand sanitizer?

Pick one that contains mostly alcohol, and has few other ingredients.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says hand sanitizers should be at least 60% ethyl alcohol or 70% isopropyl alcohol. Other approved ingredients may include sterile distilled water, hydrogen peroxide and glycerin, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

You should avoid anything with methanol or 1-propanol, both of which can be highly toxic. The FDA also warns people to watch out for hand sanitizers packaged in food and drink containers, since accidentally ingesting them could be dangerous.

Health officials also say to avoid hand sanitizers that replace alcohol with benzalkonium chloride, which is less effective at killing certain bacteria and viruses. Making your own sanitizers isn't encouraged either; the wrong mix of chemicals can be ineffective or cause skin burns.

And you should only use hand sanitizer when you can't wash your hands with soap and water, says Barun Mathema, an infectious disease researcher at Columbia University. Hand washing is better at removing more germs. ***(AP)***

CCC chairman questions IPI's logic on exclusivity issue

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REPORTER

Commonwealth Casino Commission board chair Edward C. Deleon Guerrero questions Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's logic in its claim that the continued existence of poker arcades and e-gaming in the CNMI has affected the financial viability of its Imperial Palace Resort in Garapan.

Speaking at a recent CCC board monthly meeting, Deleon Guerrero reminded IPI chief executive officer Donald R. Browne that, based on IPI's performance, 5% or even less of their earnings came from slot machines and that the remaining 92%-95% have always been from the VIP tables.

Deleon Guerrero was reacting to Browne's Aug. 26 letter to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, during which he claimed that, by allowing poker machines and e-gaming to operate outside of the casino, the CNMI is in violation of the exclusive casino license that IPI holds.

Deleon Guerrero asked Browne to elaborate more on that letter but Browne said that they are still waiting for the governor to respond. When asked if Browne was expecting Torres to say, "Okay, no problem," the IPI CEO replied that it's just the process that they are taking.

CCC vice chair Ramon Dela Cruz said he's disturbed with IPI raising the issue about allowing poker machines and e-gaming to operate outside of the casino and its implication that Club C and other facilities taking away business from IPI. "I thought that this was very obvious during the negotiation with the Lottery Commission," said Dela Cruz, citing that these establishments were already operating before even IPI came here.

"And that was permitted by law. Why raise that issue now?" Dela Cruz asked.

Browne reiterated IPI's position about the CNMI allowing the proliferation of gambling outside the casino.

Power outage on Capital Hill on Friday

There will be a scheduled power interruption on Friday, Sept. 8, 2020, on Capital Hill, from 9am to 1pm.

This will allow linemen of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to replace a leaning and rotted power pole and a leaking three-phase transformer behind the Legislature building.

The power outage will affect Maug Dr., Rota Pl., Governor's Office, Legislature building, and the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services building.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporationl). ***(PR)***

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53,498 MILES • STK:20M107-A
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KBB: $17,298
2018 MAZDA MAZDA3 SPORT
9,130 MILES • STK:18HS860
SALE PRICE $15,995
KBB: $19,059
2018 HYUNDAI TUCSON GL
9,729 MILES • STK:8HS900
SALE PRICE $18,995
KBB: $19,982
2017 HYUNDAI ACCENT GLS
16,979 MILES • STK:7HS824
SALE PRICE $11,995
KBB: $13,650
2016 KIA SEDONA LX
35,337 MILES • STK:6HS793
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SALE PRICE $16,995
KBB: $16,992
2018 HONDA CIVIC EX-T
8,507 MILES • STK:18HS942
SALE PRICE $21,995
KBB: $24,026
2018 KIA FORTE HATCHBACK LX
99,422 MILES • STK:18HS918
SALE PRICE $14,995
KBB: $18,614
2018 KIA OPTIMA LX
8,915 MILES • STK:18HS924
SALE PRICE $17,995
KBB: $20,656
2016 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5 4X4
39,877 MILES • STK:20H022-A
SALE PRICE $24,995
KBB: $34,056
SOLD
2016 MAZDA MAZDA3 SPORT
18,543 MILES • STK:9D166-A
SALE PRICE $14,995
KBB: $18,936
2018 HONDA FIT HATCHBACK
6,587 MILES • STK:18HS938
SALE PRICE $16,995
KBB: $17,947
2015 FORD EXPEDITION PLATINUM
12,534 MILES • STK:5HS735
SALE PRICE $31,995
KBB: $40,936
2018 KIA FORTE LX
10,808 MILES • STK:18HS919
SALE PRICE $14,995
KBB: $17,676
2016 MAZDA CX-5 GT AWD
16,017 MILES • STK:6HS752
SALE PRICE $19,995
KBB: $24,639
2020 NISSAN 370Z COUPE
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CUC

From Page 1

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., which runs the hospital, immediately took to its Facebook page to assure the public that the power disconnection will not affect their services.

The disconnection is only six hours every day, from 12pm to 6pm. That means a CUC crew will go to CHC every day to cut power to CHC at 12pm, then go back there at 6pm to reconnect the hospital to the power grid. CUC earlier said that doing so would allow the hospital to bring down its power cost and be able to pay its monthly billing.

Both CHCC board chair Lauri Ogumoro and CHCC chief executive officer Esther Muña said in earlier interviews that disconnecting the hospital's power will jeopardize its Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services eligibility since CMS requires a hospital to have stable power. Muña also stated multiple times that running the hospital on a generator is not a good idea because there is no "backup for the backup [generator]."

This development comes even after Gov. Ralph DLG Torres assured last Friday, Sept. 4, that CUC won't cut CHC's power supply yesterday.

Lesser than agreed amount

The Torres administration paid the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. $2.5 million two weeks ago and an additional $150,000 yesterday for more than half of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s outstanding obligations to CUC but power was still cut off to the hospital yesterday because CHCC paid only $2,000 of the $50,000 it needed to pay monthly, according to press secretary Kevin Bautista.

He said Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios have committed to both CUC and CHCC by supporting the continuity of CHCC's operations, while making sure CUC is paid and does not raise rates on ratepayers to cover CHCC's liabilities and arrears. Aside from the payments of $2.5 million and $150,000, Torres and Palacios have committed $150,000 a month to continue assisting CHCC with its utility arrears, Bautista added.

"Our hospital is a priority, which is why Gov. Torres and Lt. Gov. Palacios are diligently finding resources to keep them operational during this pandemic," he said.

Bautista said they also recognize CUC's position and are making sure that any unpaid liabilities by CHCC do not carry over to ratepayers, who need to be protected as well due to the economic impact everyone is facing.

CHCC statement

In a letter sent to CUC executive director Gary Camacho and the CUC board yesterday, CHCC said that the draft settlement agreement that CUC proposed to settle their billing dispute is not an accurate representation of what all parties agreed to at a meeting with Torres. CHCC added that CUC added "all sorts of claims that were never discussed," such as the total amount that has accumulated over the years.

CHCC stated that the meeting they had with both CUC and Torres was about current billings. "To this end, CHCC put up $50,000 per month plus actual usage by federal programs (which was already being paid and would continue to be). In addition, the central government would pay $150,000 on behalf of CHCC to CUC every month," said CHCC.

The central government paid half of the requirement CUC asked CHCC to put up, which was $2.5 million out of the $5 million that CHCC reportedly owed. All parties agreed that there will be a monthly payment of $250,000 from CHCC and the central government.

"The impetus of the meeting was threats made by the CUC board to the CHCC board. It is unseemly to have these two very important semi-autonomous corporations publicly fighting during a time of already heightened tensions in a pandemic," said CHCC. "The governor was rightly concerned about the perception of these two most important public entities being at loggerheads and undermining confidence in the government at this crucial time. So, in good faith, he arranged a meeting to resolve the issue of the current billings. That issue was resolved, with both the CEO of CHCC and the executive director of CUC and members of both boards meeting with the governor on Capital Hill."

Ultimatum

In a separate interview, CUC's Camacho stated that CUC board instructed the management to disconnect CHCC's power supply until some of their requirements are met—primarily payments.

Camacho confirmed that Torres paid 65% of CHCC's current usage. He added that what CHCC owed went down to a minimum requirement of $250,000 monthly.

A balance of approximately $49,000 is owed CUC in order to stop the six-hour daily disconnection at CHC. Additionally, Camacho said that CHCC has accumulated a $34 million balance over the years, and that CUC needs a payment scheme that will satisfy CHCC's monthly bills and not let other consumers foot the shortfall.

"We're just trying to do the best we can under the current situation. There's a lot of things that need to be replaced, and we need to get the necessary funding to again reinvest in our water, wastewater and other systems on all three islands to ensure that we can provide services for all the people, particularly those that do pay," said Camacho.

CHCC assured that it will continue to make payments that was agreed upon at the meeting with Torres. It asked the CUC board and Camacho to work with the hospital to prepare an agreement that is in line with what was agreed upon at the meeting with Torres last Aug. 27. ***(With Ferdie de la Torre)***

TRAVELER

From Page 1

According to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the traveler was identified via travel screening and was confirmed positive upon arrival. The individual has been sent to the designated government facility which is the Kanoa Resort in Susupe, where the individual will be in isolation.

CHCC has already conducted contact tracing for the patient's most immediate contacts, such as passengers on the same flight, close family members, and friends.

It is not too late to get tested for COVID-19 if you haven't already. CHCC has updated their community-based testing schedule and location. On Sept. 11, they will be accepting drive-through and walk-in's for testing from 8:30am to 11am at the Mariana Resort & Spa lobby in Marpi.

On Tinian, community-based testing will be walk-in only, on Sept. 9 from 9am to 11am and from 1pm to 3pm at the Tinian Health Center conference room. On Rota, community-based testing will be walk-in only, on Sept. 9 from 1pm to 4pm at the Rota Health Center.

New participants must register in order to get tested. Retesting through community-based testing is not available at this time.

COVID-19 in Guam

The Joint Information Center on Guam recently announced the island's 19th COVID-19-related fatality, this time at the Guam Memorial Hospital yesterday at approximately 2:48pm. The latest death involves a 64-year-old female with underlying health conditions that was enhanced by COVID-19. She was a known positive and was seen at the Guam Regional Medical City last Aug. 25 before she was transferred and admitted to GMH on the same day.

"Too many of our days have been filled with grief. With the passing of another person, a total of 19 individuals have lost their lives and countless people have had to mourn for them," said Guam's Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero. "Words are not always enough, but [first gentleman] Jeff [Cook], Lt. Gov. Josh [Tenorio], and I send our condolences and sympathies to her friends and families."

PSS

From Page 1

with Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada inspecting campuses to ensure that schools will pass muster when inspected by Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and will be ready when students are finally allowed back on campus.

According to Ada, PSS went ahead and opened yesterday since schools were prepared and were expected to open on Sept 8, with a total of approximately 564 teachers, including staff from Head Start to high school.

Ada visited the Marianas High School, Hopwood Middle School (both the old location and the temporary campus), Oleai Elementary School, Garapan Elementary School, Koblerville Elementary School, Francisco Mendiola Sablan Middle School.

Ada added that all school principals have been compliant with the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force's guidance in hopes to be approved to open their door to their students come October. "All the principals hold that as a guiding force because no principal wants to have a denied opening notice. They want to be compliant, and they want to be able to open," said Ada.

Ten years ago, Ada said knew that technology will come and take over the classroom. "That future is here now," he added. Though it may have come unexpectedly, leaving many unprepared mentally and/or physically, teachers, staff, students, etc. must accept the "new norm," and be able to get comfortable moving forward Ada said, adding that COVID-19 has pushed not only the CNMI but the whole world to be "technology driven."

Ada assured that more than half of PSS' teachers are "tech-savvy," meaning that they are familiar with the use of technology. He said that PSS divided all their staff into three groups: the "experts," the ones with more experience; the moderate ones who are familiar with technology but need more guidance; and those who aren't familiar with technology yet. He advised principals to pair up those who are old-school with those who are tech-savvy in order for the ones who aren't familiar with technology to learn to be comfortable with transitioning online.

Marianas High School's first week will consist of calling students and families to ensure that they have internet access and a device that can access what they need for the school year. MHS vice principal Melanie Rdiall says that 1,200 students have successfully registered this school year.

OPA

From Page 1

ing operations conducted on residential properties, into compliance with the HOT law may lead to the loss of potential tax revenues.

Pai pointed out that, with a full-time director at its helm, Rev&Tax is positioned to develop its enforcement capabilities for the uniform enforcement of the HOT law.

In his response last Aug. 26, Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig said that Rev&Tax agreed with all of OPA's findings and gave an action plans to OPA to address the recommendations.

In the OPA report, Pai said that Rev&Tax has not adopted regulations specific to HOT, does not proactively address non-filings of HOT, does not require the proper reporting of revenues in the business gross revenue tax form, and has limited powers to detect unlicensed operators of short-term lodging facilities, usually called bed-and-breakfast facilities.

Pai said Rev&Tax has not adopted regulations specific to HOT since the tax's establishment in 1982.

Given the lack of regulations, it is unclear whether or not collecting HOT on charges other than the room rate complied with the HOT law.

He said although authorized to examine books, papers, records, or other data for the purposes of ascertaining the correctness of any tax return, Rev&Tax has not conducted tax audits of operators' revenue records to verify the credibility of reported HOT.

Pai said other than the U.S. Internal Revenue Manual, which Revenue and Taxation uses as a guide for examining income tax filings, it has not adopted a procedures manual for auditing HOT.

The HOT is imposed upon transient occupants of a room or rooms in a hotel or similar facility on the amount charged or paid for accommodations. Operators are required to remit their monthly collections of HOT from transient occupants and file the monthly HOT form with Rev&Tax.

OPA recommends that Rev&Tax adopt regulations that interpret the HOT law's use of the term "accommodation" and enable its uniform enforcement of HOT.

OPA also recommends that Rev&Tax adopt a procedures manual for auditing HOT, conduct tax audits of HOT that involve examinations of operator revenue records; and implement procedures using the automation capabilities of the tax system for initiating tax audits of HOT.

OPA's other recommendations are the following:

- That Rev&Tax implement procedures using the automation capabilities of the tax system to routinely identify non-filings or non-filers of HOT and BGRT, and implement procedures for staff to immediately notify and request operators to file all missing HOT and BGRT filings.

- That Rev&Tax require operators to operate revenues that are subject to both HOT and BGRT under a specific business activity code(s) in the monthly BGRT form; and implement the automation capabilities of the tax system to streamline the verification of revenues reported in HOT and BGRT forms.

- That Rev&Tax review the rules and regulations and laws that impact its enforcement of the HOT law, and implement appropriate procedures for uniformly enforcing business license requirements and the HOT law on all operations of short-term lodging, including operations conducted at private residences.

The HOT tax rate was increased in March 2013 from 10% to 15% under Public Law 18-1. Following that, HOT revenues grew from $12.8 million in fiscal year 2014 to $20 million in fiscal year 2018.

Eighty percent of the HOT collection goes to the Marianas Visitors Authority to promote tourism and attract tourists to the CNMI. The remaining 20% is allocated to fund the operations and obligations of the NMI Retirement Fund and/or 25% pension payments to retirees.

In 2017, OPA initiated a similar audit of Rev&Tax's processes and procedures for administering and enforcing HOT, but terminated the audit due to Finance's delay in providing sufficient tax data necessary for completing the audit.

Cardiac arrest reportedly led to San Vicente crash

A man who was driving along Katbon Road in San Vicente last Monday reportedly had a "medical emergency" that led him to crashing his vehicle and later being pronounced dead on arrival at the Saipan hospital.

A Commonwealth Health Center physician declared the driver dead at 10:12am Monday due to sudden cardiac arrest.

According to the report the Department of Public Safety released about the incident, DPS received a 911 call on Monday, Sept. 7, 2020, at about 9am, reporting an auto-run off incident on Katbon Road in San Vicente, with the driver being unresponsive. Police dispatched to the scene saw an SUV that was tilted on its right side and stuck in a roadside stormwater basin about 12 feet deep. Officers tried to gain a response from the driver as they waited for medics. Once the medics arrived, they extracted the driver from the vehicle and tried to revive him as they rushed him to the Commonwealth Health Center, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

At this time the identity of the individual is being withheld in respect to the family. This case is under further investigation; however, based on witnesses' statements and evidence gathered from the crash scene, the driver suffered some kind of medical emergency, which caused him to lose control of the vehicle, leading to the crash. ***(PR)***

$70K grant is awarded to East-West Center

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has awarded $70,198 in fiscal year 2020 grant funding through the Technical Assistance Program to support an East-West Center initiative to highlight the Pacific Islands and the relationship between the Pacific Islands and the United States.

"This is a timely venture with the East-West Center here in Washington, D.C., as the Office of Insular Affairs works with other federal partners to support the U.S. territories and the freely associated states," said Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Douglas W. Domenech. "The East-West Center's initiative will highlight the importance of the U.S.-affiliated insular areas to American national security as well as President Trump's Indo-Pacific Strategy's focus on a free and open Pacific. The publication will be posted online and shared with members of Congress and federal policy makers in Washington whose work can have a lasting impact on the island areas."

The East-West Center in Washington, D.C., will use the grant to research and create a new publication titled, "Pacific Islands Matter for America/ America Matters for the Pacific Islands."

Following the format of the East-West Center's *Asia Matters for America* series, the East-West Center proposal aims to print and post online *Pacific Islands Matter for America* for members of Congress and federal officials in Washington, D.C., early in the year 2021. The East-West Center plans to work closely with the newly created Congressional Pacific Islands Caucus in the House of Representatives and other important stakeholders to develop this brochure.

"The East West Center is excited to create and utilize this new resource to support the work of government, private sector, and civil society stakeholders in United States-Pacific Islands relations. This will be a unique, usable tool as part of the 'Asia Matters for America' initiative that highlights U.S. relations with the Indo-Pacific at the national, state, and local levels," said Satu Limaye, vice president of the EWC and director of the Asia Matters for America initiative. ***(PR)***

$608,180 TAP grants awarded to FSM

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A total of $608,180 in fiscal year 2020 grant funding provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs' Technical Assistance Program has been approved to support the Federated States of Micronesia, broken down as follows:

■ **Habele (a non-profit organization)-$358,525** will be used to support the Habele Robotics League, a program that promotes the development of engineering and math skills through robot building and 3D printing at twenty-three public and private high schools on Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap States in the FSM. Habele is a U.S.-based non-profit organization founded by former U.S. Peace Corps volunteers and who work on-ground with stakeholders in the FSM.

■ **FSM Office of National Archive, Culture, and Historic Preservation-$55,760** will be used to support a vegetation removal and management program at the Nan Madol World Heritage Site in Pohnpei. Funding will also be used to create and develop signage leading to Nan Madol, located on the opposite side of the island from the airport and town center.

■ **Pohnpei State Governor's Office-$50,500** will be used to strengthen Pohnpei State's Aid Coordination Unit responsible for coordinating and strengthening management of foreign assistance to Pohnpei. Funds will be used to develop a database for tracking and the develop formal procedures and guidelines, to include local policy guidelines on coordination and implementation of external resources provided to Pohnpei State.

■ **Habele-$41,300** will be used to support the Micronesian Adze Blade Project to design and develop steel versions of the Micronesian adze, formerly made of shell and stone and used historically for carving out traditional Carolinian canoes or proas. Habele will work with master carvers and navigators to design and develop a range of traditional Micronesian adzes for distribution to local carvers in support of efforts across Micronesia to sustain and expand the production of canoes, once the sole mode of transport in Oceania and used by traditional celestial navigators who traveled the Pacific Ocean without Western instruments.

■ **Habele - $35,550** will be used to support the Weaving Connections Project whereby women in the freely associated states and in the United States will collaborate to teach and learn traditional Carolinian weaving skills, using a backstrap loom to produce fine textiles used to make wrap around skirts, also known as lava lavas. The project aims to protect and promote centuries-long traditions of weaving while also supporting connections between communities of Pacific Islander women in freely associated states and in the United States.

■ **Kosrae State Public Auditor's Office-$35,000** will be used to upgrade the website for the Kosrae State Public Auditor's Office and support public auditor training, that includes participation in an annual auditor's conference in the FSM and the Association of Government Accountants conference on Guam.

■ **Chuuk State Public Auditor's Office-$31,545** will be used to support public auditor participation at the Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General's annual conference and to purchase related study materials. ***(PR)***

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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, v. ESTATE OF PONCIANO CRUZ RASA, VIVIAN P. RASA, and CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 03-0609 NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION

NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title or a long-term leasehold interest to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **September 30, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot Number 014 H 58, situated in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan, containing an area of square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 014 H 01, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document Number 8244, on the 16th day of May, 1979, and including all existing and permanent improvements on the real property.

This Notice of Second Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on January 18, 2013, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Estate of Ponciano Cruz Rasa and Vivian P. Rasa.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

1. Public Sale: The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the
contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on September 29, 2020.

2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c. To reject any and all bids.

4. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property if it meets minimum bid requirements. Bids may be entered in person, through mail, or electronic mail to Charity R. Hodson at the contact information provided in this notice.

5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. Change of Terms: The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property for possible exceptions to the title. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times of the property, appraisal report, or the preliminary title report. These documents will also be available for review upon request at the auction site on the date of auction. The interests of Defendants Estate of Ponciano Cruz Rasa and Vivian P. Rasa in the property or any leasehold interest to the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, v. ERIC B. ATALIG and LOURDES F. ATALIG, Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0004 NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION

THIS NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title or a long-term leasehold interest to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **September 30, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Tract No. 21769-R2-5 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Tract No. 21769-R2-9 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

Tract No. 21769-R2-10 (formerly part of Tract 21769-R2, which was part of Tract 21769, AH 72 and also known as Lot 352 R 01), as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 3007/95, the original of which was recorded on April 5, 1995, as Document No. 95-0841 at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

The foregoing properties contain a total area of 2,618 square meters, more or less. This This Notice of Second Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 12, 2017**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:
1. Public Sale: The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on September

2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c. To reject any and all bids.

Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property if it meets minimum bid requirements. Bids may be entered in person, through mail, or electronic mail to Charity R. Hodson at the contact information provided in this notice.

5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. Change of Terms: The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants Eric B. Atalig and Lourdes F. Atalig in the property or any leasehold interest to the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, v. THE ESTATE OF HERMAN T. PALACIOS and THE ESTATE OF JOYCELYN C. PALACIOS, Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0004 NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION

THIS NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title or a long-term leasehold interest to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **September 30, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 001 I 13, containing an area of 1,529 square meters, more or less, as described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 001 I 00, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document No. 712, on the 1st day of March 1971, including all existing and future improvements on the said property;

This Notice of Second Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **January 7, 2019,** in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Estate of Herman T. Palacios and Estate of Joycelyn C. Palacios.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

1. Public Sale: The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on September 29, 2020.

2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;

b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c. To reject any and all bids.

4. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property if it meets minimum bid requirements. Bids may be entered in person, through mail, or electronic mail to Charity R. Hodson at the contact information provided in this notice.

5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. Change of Terms: The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Defendants Estate of Herman T. Palacios and Estate of Joycelyn C. Palacios to the property or any leasehold interest to the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

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Attorney for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, v. AMBROSE BENNETT, individually and dba LIL & BRO'S TRIKE DEALERSHIP & RENTALS, and JUAN T. LIZAMA, Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 16-0236 NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION

THIS NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commonwealth Development Authority, or its designee, will sell the fee simple title or a long-term leasehold interest to the following real property at public auction to the highest bidder, on **September 30, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.** in the open air outside the Commonwealth Development Authority, located in Oleai, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Lot No. 031 A 01, containing an area of 1,186 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 031 A 00 dated 20 February 1985, as File No. 85-0423.

This Notice of Second Auction is issued pursuant to the Writ of Execution entered in this action on **July 23, 2018**, in order to satisfy the amount adjudged due to Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority from Defendants Ambrose Bennett, individual and dba Lil and Bro's Trike Dealership & Rentals, and Juan T. Lizama.

The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:
1. Public Sale: The auction shall be open to the general public and will be held in the open air. All public attendees are asked to observe social distancing measures and to wear face masks. Any attendees wishing to appear by video conferencing or telephone must notify counsel for CDA in advance at the contact information provided in this notice at least by 10:00AM on September 29, 2020.

2. With Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.

3. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:

a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;

b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and

c. To reject any and all bids.

4. Bids: Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property if it meets minimum bid requirements. Bids may be entered in person, through mail, or electronic mail to Charity R. Hodson at the contact information provided in this notice.

5. Deposit and Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten calendar (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier's check; payments may also be made by credit card with either Visa or Mastercard only, subject to a two percent (2%) processing fee. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which shall revert to the Commonwealth Development Authority.

6. Change of Terms: The auctioneer and the Commonwealth Development Authority reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.

7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Commonwealth Development Authority for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interest of Defendant Juan T. Lizama or any leasehold interest to the property is being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 20th day of August, 2020.

/s/
Charity R. Hodson, F0487
Attorney for CDA

OAG says NMI has dibs over IPI's $9M

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General argues that the Department of Finance's Division of Revenue and Taxation's tax lien over Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's unpaid taxes in the amount of over $9 million should come before the claims of IPI's former contractor, Pacific Rim Land Development LLC.

In a notice of tax lien filed in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, assistant attorney general Dustin Rollins, who represents Finance-DRT, asserted the rights of the CNMI government over IPI's property and rights to property.

"As the Commonwealth's tax lien was filed in accordance with applicable law…the Commonwealth asserts that its lien has priority over any unrecorded judgments or unperfected liens of…Pacific Rim Land Development LLC," Rollins said.

IPI owes the CNMI government $9,416,887.09 in unpaid business gross revenue taxes, the OAG said.

Pacific Rim recently asked the court to seize IPI vehicles and gaming machines to satisfy a court judgment Pacific Rim had won against IPI.

The U.S. District Court for the NMI had ruled last April in favor of Pacific Rim in its lawsuit against IPI for breach of contract and breach of promissory note and awarded it $6.8 million.

The court previously granted the application for a writ of execution of Pacific Rim to seize money owned or controlled by IPI from Bank of Saipan, City Trust Bank, Bank of Guam, and First Hawaiian Bank; and two escrow accounts believed to be owned by IPI at Security Title Inc., and Pacific American Title Inc.

Pacific Rim attorney Colin Thompson said the judgment remains unsatisfied in the amount of $5,525,463.98 plus interest, costs, and fees that have yet to be addressed.

Pacific Rim sued IPI for refusing to pay for services in the amount of $5.65 million involving the agreed-upon construction work for the IPI casino-resort project on Sept. 30, 2018.

Ablog graduates from UHM

Ablog

Kailanianna C. Ablog, who is a granddaughter of Violeta Ablog and the late Nestor R. Ablog, Rita "Dengir" Gracia Kazuma, and the late former senator Ramon "Kumoi" Santos Deleon Guerrero, recently graduated with magna cum laude honors from the University of Hawaii at Mānoa.

Ablog distinguished herself at the university by earning a bachelor of arts degree in Anthropology and certifications in Ethnic Studies and Korean. She was an active member of the UHM community, having served in multiple leadership positions, including Opinions editor and co-managing editor for Ka Leo O Hawai'i, UHM's student newspaper, and the archaeology representative and webmaster for the Anthropology Undergraduate Student Association. Ablog also became a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, Pi Gamma Mu, and Phi Beta Kappa.

During the summer of 2019, Ablog studied at Yonsei University's Korean Language Institute for three months.

Since graduating in May, she has become an intern for "Lady Pasifika," a creative platform that highlights Pacific Islander women and their stories.

She plans on attending graduate school after taking a gap year. ***(PR)***

Free webinars on federal contracting

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free live webinars every Thursday in September. Webinars run from 10am to 11:30am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the start of the webinar.

■ Sept. 10 – How to Get 8(a) Certified – The SBA's 8(a) Program was created to help small, disadvantaged businesses compete in the federal procurement market. The Guam PTAC will help you navigate the forms and requirements of the 8a program.

■ Sept. 17 – Cybersecurity for Federal Contractors – Cybersecurity is a national security issue. We will discuss what Federal contractors can do to make sure they are complying with DOD requirements with respect to keeping data protected. DOD's upcoming Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) will be discussed.

■ Sept. 24– Responding to Requests for Proposals – The Guam PTAC will walk participants through the common sections and clauses of an RFP as well as provide tips on developing a proposal in response to an RFP.

Register on our website, http://guamptac.com/news-and-events.php. ***(PR)***

Saipan survey seeks input on quality of experiences at 8 sites

Lynker Technologies' Sustainable Pacific Program is seeking to learn from Saipan residents about their past and current use of eight sites around the island: Mañagaha Island; the Grotto; Obyan Beach; Lao Lao Bay; Ladder Beach; Hidden Beach; Micro Beach; and Pau Pau Beach. The survey asks residents' thoughts about crowding, environmental conditions, and recreational experiences at these sites.

Lynker Technologies has been conducting this survey since early 2020 and several hundred residents have already taken the survey. "But we want to hear from as many Saipan residents as possible before the project ends in a few months," the group said in a statement.

If you would like to contribute your opinion, you can access the online survey at: http://tiny.cc/e22psz If you have any questions or would like to take the survey via mail or over the phone, contact Christopher Hawkins at chawkins@lynkertech.com or Lynker Technologies' Saipan-based project manager Becky Skeele at becky@koaconsulting.com for more information.

This project is funded through a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Coral Reef Conservation Program. The federal government is not involved in the development, implementation, or analysis of the survey.

Lynker's creative and highly-flexible Sustainable Pacific Program was created to help non-profits and local governments in the Pacific Islands, West Coast, and Alaska involved in important ocean, coastal, fisheries, and other environmental work. Visit and learn more about what we do at www.Lynker.com. ***(PR)***

NEWS BRIEFS

Karidat accepting applications for rental assistance

Karidat was able to process 600-plus applications for rental assistance on the previous waiting list. Starting this week, Sept. 8, 2020, it will begin accepting new applications for rental assistance. For us to serve applicants in a timely manner, have all the required documents ready for processing, All documents must be submitted within four business days after a caseworker has contacted you. We will accept 50 new applications per week. This is in order to process the applications in a timely manner. If you have any questions, contact us at 234-6981 or 234-5248. For more updates please visit on Facebook at KARIDAT. ***(PR)***

5.4-magnitude earthquake in Guam

At 10:54am on Sept. 8, 2020, a report of a 5.4-magnitude earthquake occurred at 13.113°N 144.297°E in the Guam region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories from the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. ***(PR)***

4.8-magnitude earthquake in the CNMI

At 6:10pm on Sept. 7, 2020, a report of a 4.8-magnitude earthquake occurred 142 kilometers southeast of San Jose Village in the Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, no Tsunami warnings or advisories are issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. ***(PR)***

6.6-magnitude quake in Vanuatu

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.6 occurred in the Vanuatu Islands at 4:13pm last Monday, Sept. 7, 2020. Based on all available data, there is no tsunami threat to Guam, Rota, Tinian or Saipan from this earthquake. ***(PR)***

DONATION TO TSLF

The Lady Diann Torres Foundation, represented by first lady Diann Torres, second from left, back row, donates $500 to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation as a part of its "5K for 5 Year Anniversary Celebration."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Commercial Cleaners
Positions Available: 15
Working hours 8:00am-5:00pm. Working days, Monday - Saturday
Salary is $10.42/hr,
overtime rate is $15.63/hr.

If interested, contact us at 1-671-683-3844 or email spnmarianas.corp@gmail.com

Positions: Commercial Cleaners
Positions Available: 25
Working hours 8:00am - 5:00pm. Working days, Monday - Saturday
Salary is $10.42/hr,
overtime rate is $15.63/hr

If interested, contact us at 1-671-683-3844 or email spnmarianas.corp@gmail.com

Official Approved Notice from Bankruptcy Court

Sexual Abuse Claims in Boy Scouts Bankruptcy

Regardless of how old you are today or when the sexual abuse occurred, you need to file your claim by 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) on November 16, 2020.

The Boy Scouts of America ("BSA") has filed bankruptcy in order to restructure its nonprofit organization and pay Sexual Abuse Survivors. Please read this notice carefully as it may impact your rights against BSA, BSA Local Councils and organizations that sponsored your troop or pack and provides information about the case, *In re Boy Scouts of America and Delaware BSA, LLC*, No. 20-10343 (Bankr. D. Del.). This notice is a short summary. For more detail, visit www.OfficialBSAClaims.com or call 1-866-907-2721.

Who Should File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

Anyone who was sexually abused during their time in Scouting, on or before February 18, 2020, must file a claim. This includes sexual abuse in connection with Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, or any entity or activity associated with Scouting. Sexual Abuse Claims include, but are not limited to: sexual misconduct, exploitation, or touching, sexual comments about a person or other behaviors that led to abuse, even if the behavior was not sexual or against the law, and regardless of whether you thought the behavior was sexual abuse or not. These acts could be between a: (1) child and an adult or (2) child and another child.

When and How Should I File a Sexual Abuse Claim?

You should file a claim using the Sexual Abuse Survivor Proof of Claim by **November 16, 2020** at **5:00 p.m.** (**Eastern Time**). **If you do not file a timely Sexual Abuse Claim, you may lose rights against BSA, BSA Local Councils or organizations that sponsored your troop or pack, including any right to compensation**. Only BSA is in bankruptcy. If you have a claim against the BSA Local Councils or other organizations, you must take additional legal action to preserve and pursue your rights.

Your information will be kept private. You can download and file a claim at www.OfficialBSAclaims.com or call 1-866-907-2721 for help on how to file a claim by mail. Scouting participants who were at least 18 years of age at the time the sexual abuse began may also have claims related to sexual abuse and should consult the appropriate claim form at www.OfficialBSAclaims.com.

ACT NOW Before Time Runs Out:

File a Sexual Abuse Survivor Proof of Claim.

If your claim is approved, you may receive compensation from the bankruptcy.

Have questions? Call or visit the website for more information.

If a plan to reorganize BSA is approved, it could release claims you hold against certain third parties, including against BSA Local Councils and organizations that sponsored your troop or pack. Please visit the website to learn more.

Other Support

BSA will fund in-person counseling for current or former Scouts or their family. To request in-person counseling, please call 1-866-907-2721 or email restructuring@scouting.org.

Your information will be kept private.

www.OfficialBSAclaims.com 1-866-907-2721

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER

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Excuse me, flight attendent! Would you tell the pilot we need a smoother flight!
I apologize, ma'am, but due to layoffs... our pilot is a robot!!
AIRLINES LAYING OFF THOUSANDS OF EMPLOYEES!
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EDITORIAL

King of a cultural moment

In this Sunday, Nov. 24, 2019 file photo, Chadwick Boseman poses in the press room at the American Music Awards at the Microsoft Theater in Los Angeles. AP

Chadwick Boseman, a uniquely unifying actor and storyteller, has died of colon cancer at 43.

The world is mourning.

Boseman's talent as an actor manifested in serval notable roles, including that of Jackie Robinson in the film "42" and Thurgood Marshall in "Marshall."

But it is for his 2018 Marvel role as T'Challa, the Black Panther, that his brand of dignity, calm assurance and sheer virtuosity won over hearts and minds around the globe.

The movie explores a tale of rivalry and succession in the fictional, Afro-futuristic land of Wakanda, merging tradition and tech in a visually arresting style that set fire to public imagination.

Some of the politics of the movie are arguable. Its excellence as a piece of pop culture is not.

The film, thanks in large part to Boseman, according to director Ryan Coogler, touched off a global moment, a celebration of Blackness that stirred hope and pride in many and simple appreciation and awe in others.

Racial tensions have been running hot for years. "Black Panther" provided a chance for people to come together and enjoy a movie. Not because it was bereft of politics and voice, but because it transcended rudimentary sloganeering and spun a wonderful, nuanced tale.

Boseman's gifts as a storyteller were extraordinary. And as the leader of a cultural celebration, he was regal _ and human. His decision not to tell the world about his illness makes his passing a shock.

There may be another T'Challa, but not another Chadwick Boseman.

The world can only hope his successor bears the mantle with the same grace and decency.

(c) 2020 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

Despite author's claims, there's no defense for looting

By JONAH GOLDBERG
Tribune News Service

Jonah Goldberg is an editor-at-large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute. You can write to him in care of this newspaper or by email at JonahsColumn@aol.com.

Vicky Osterweil, the author of "In Defense of Looting: A Riotous History of Uncivil Action," is getting her 15 minutes of fame thanks to a segment on NPR in which she said some really mind-bogglingly dumb, indefensibly evil and fascinatingly reactionary things.

We'll come back to her in a moment.

One of my weird mental pastimes is to look at the world as if I were a visitor from the past. But rather than think of how a time traveler might marvel at the new technology and tall buildings, I like to wonder: What would someone from 500 or 1,000 years ago recognize as familiar?

Some things are obvious: a mother breastfeeding a baby or an old man tending a garden. "We do that too!" a time traveler might say on first sight.

But if you were a sophisticated and knowledgeable time traveler, you might recognize some deeper similarities.

My favorite example is North Korea, which is often called a "communist" or "Marxist" regime but would be instantly recognizable to a temporal tourist as an absolutist monarchy, even though the regime doesn't use the word "king." Divine power is passed down to the male heir of the previous ruler. Every de facto monarch is said to be of quasi-supernatural origin and endowed with superhuman abilities and wisdom. North Korea also has a hereditary aristocracy that lives off the hereditary peasant class, which is born into de facto serfdom.

I bring this up because sometimes we get too hung up on words and lose sight of the things underneath. And that brings me back to Osterweil.

"Looting is a highly racialized word from its very inception in the English language," Osterweil said in the NPR interview. "It's taken from Hindi, lut, which means 'goods' or 'spoils.'"

How this is relevant, or even evidence that the word is "racialized," is a mystery given that maybe two in 10 million people know its etymology. Other words with Hindi origins: pundit, guru, khaki, cashmere and pajamas. The horror.

This is a good example of confusing words and things. Looting—mobs grabbing stuff that doesn't belong to them—is an ancient practice dating back hundreds of thousands of years, before we even had the concept of dates. Pillaging, ransacking, theft—call it what you like—is how tribes acquired stuff before the invention of trade.

In short: Osterweil thinks she's making some powerful neo-Marxist argument on the bleeding edge of theory, but what she's discovered is tribal barbarism and put a fresh coat of paint on it.

She is fluent in all the latest buzzwords and campus jargon. The "so-called" United States of America, she writes in her book, was founded in "cisheteropatriarchal racial capitalist" violence. (I'm getting my quotes from Graeme Wood's excellent review in The Atlantic, as I have no desire to saddle Osterweil with the guilt of profiting from her work.)

Destroying businesses is an "experience of pleasure, joy and freedom," she writes. Osterweil also insists it's a form of "queer birth," and that "riots are violent, extreme and femme as f---." Looting isn't wrong, she claims, but rather a form of "proletarian shopping."

"Looting strikes at the heart of property, of whiteness and of the police," Osterweil explained on NPR. "The very basis of property in the U.S. is derived through whiteness and through Black oppression, through the history of slavery and settler domination of the country."

Nope. Notions of private property can be found in ancient China, the Islamic world and, well, everywhere.

Even the Korean grocers targeted by looting have it coming, according to Osterweil, because they're working in the white man's system of "ownership." And ownership is "innately, structurally white supremacist."

What Osterweil is really describing is revenge based on collective guilt. A Viking or Gaul from the past would instantly recognize it. So would countless nonwhite barbarians of yore, because that's what humans used to believe. "Your ancestors did something to my ancestors and so you have this coming."

Books could be written about how wrong—historically, morally, logically—Osterweil is. But there is one place where she's right. Rioting and looting are fun, which is why young people do it from time to time. Mobs are thrilling, which is why they're so dangerous and evil. (Presumably rapists and murderers feel "joy" too, that doesn't make them good; it illuminates their evilness.) That's why civilized societies try to prevent them. Barbarians come up with clever word salads to defend them.

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America's real hoax: Record highs on Wall Street as millions of jobless people can't pay rent

By WILL BUNCH
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Will Bunch is the national opinion columnist for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

The shocking disconnect between a thriving U.S. investor economy and its millions of unemployed as a recipe for even worse social unrest.

Don't blame Lisa Scott, a 43-year-old certified nursing assistant who lives in the Oxford Circle section of Philadelphia, for not celebrating this week as the Standard & Poor's 500 index soared to yet another record high, as Wall Street's unbelievable—in every sense of the word—summer stretches into a new month.

On Wednesday afternoon, as the Dow was rising yet another 454 points, Scott—who hasn't worked since the coronavirus turned her world upside down in March—was far too busy worrying why Pennsylvania still hasn't processed her unemployment claim, whether her landlord will keep allowing her to pay whatever rent she can and how she'd be able to seek new work with her 12-year-old at home for virtual schooling.

"I think it's all bull----, pardon my language," Scott told me when I asked her about the stock market soaring even as nearly 30 million Americans, that's one in every five workers, continues to receive the unemployment benefits she's still struggling to obtain. Like many in her shoes, the mother of six is losing faith in the system.

"I am an essential worker—I am needed, and look how they're doing me," Scott told me.

What's so mind-boggling is that the increasingly desperate plight of America's jobless, a crisis that's approached the unthinkable levels of the Great Depression of the 1930s, isn't the biggest story on the news. Instead, it's squeezed out by a debate over so-called "law and order," with a president who'd rather marshal the vast power of the federal government to send troops to arrest graffiti artists than enact a massive jobs-and-relief program.

Seriously? You're worried about social unrest now? Just imagine the chaos in a few months, when homeless people sleep on park benches under a blanket of newspaper headlines that Jeff Bezos is the world's first $300 billion man, or when the food lines begin to resemble "Hands Across America." Personally, I don't play the stock market but if I did, I'd be investing heavily in pitchfork manufacturers.

This isn't a new problem, of course. Ever since 1980, when Ronald Reagan's initial "Make America Great Again" platform" was cover (just as it would be for Donald Trump) for slashing taxes on the wealthy, the background noise of income inequality has gone from a whisper to the scream of "We are the 99%!"

But the cataclysm of 2020's pandemic and related shutdowns has taken America's wealth gap from tragedy to farce. After a steep dip in the spring—shuttered stores and factories and millions of jobless claims will do that, at least briefly—Wall Street bounced back and kept going. Why? Some of the daily spikes have shown that America's supposedly sharp-eyed stock traders—like the president they admire—are far too susceptible to dubious rumors and scammy press releases about imminent vaccines.

But that's only part of the dark underbelly of Wall Street's daily highs. The pandemic has played out in a cruel way that's caused beloved small businesses like one-of-a-kind boutiques and funky restaurants to close, while big corporations like Amazon with their global logistics have flourished. America has become even more cruel and less fun to live in at the same time.

But public corporations are also booming because we've created a system that can pump in literally trillions of dollars to prop up stocks—led by a Federal Reserve whose chairman was appointed by a president who uses the sky-high Dow to argue for his reelection—but gridlocks over the idea of helping families pay their $500 monthly rent.

And so the billionaires who run these public corporations have seen their private wealth explode. Amazon's Bezos became Planet Earth's first $200 billion man (even after his divorce!) but other billionaires like Elon Musk, Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg have also become obscenely rich during the worst year of many people's lifetimes.

Meanwhile, it was hailed as a warped victory on Thursday morning when "only" 881,000 Americans filed new state unemployment claims. But that still dwarfs any week from the painful Great Recession only a decade ago, and it also fails to include a second class of emergency pandemic benefits that elevates the total number seeking new aid this week to 1.6 million. And yet somehow this massive societal shakeup continues to get lost amid a president's increasingly delusional tweets or public comments, or dramatic video of small courthouse fires.

John Dodds, the activist who heads the Philadelphia Unemployment Project, in a city where the jobless rate is still at the near-Depression level of 17.7%, the priority remains trying to convince Washington to reinstate the $600 weekly unemployment-compensation boost that arguably prevented a total meltdown but expired at the end of July. Congress, which stayed in recess for most of August, didn't have the same sense of urgency.

The stories of America's unemployed are as diverse as the nation itself. Rebecca Ansel, an unemployed violinist and musicians' union member, recently rallied with other PUP members in Philadelphia to extend the $600 benefit. Unlike Lisa Scott, she'd gotten her jobless claim processed quickly, and owning her own home in Collingswood, New Jersey, has helped her get by. But she worried things will change with Philadelphia's arts' venues likely to remain dark for months, and not being able to do what she loves has already exacted an emotional toll. "Everything is taking a hit—it's hard," Ansel told me. She said "I feel a piece of myself is missing."

For Scott, as for many, economic worries are front and center. She lost her nursing assistant job in March when—concerned about her six kids, including a 4-year-old—she declined to volunteer for a COVID unit. The setback, and her inability to get Pennsylvania to process her unemployment claim, is causing her to lose hope in the system. "I don't think they're handling it too good," she said. "Look at me, a hard-working woman and for the first time in 15 years I'm on food stamps."

The fierce urgency of now that briefly allowed Congress and the Trump administration to pass relief bills in the first weeks of the coronavirus crisis needs to be rekindled, or the breakdown of American social order will only accelerate. It's bizarre that we're playing politics around the recent spike in murder rates in American cities and ignoring the obvious link to the COVID-19 economic despair and disruption. That's one more reason why the stock market rise matters; it's a convenient distraction that allows policymakers to pretend that the economy is doing just fine when it's utterly broken for tens of millions of forgotten Americans.

But we can't ignore this forever. Last week, about 100 protesters showed up outside Bezos' $23 million mansion in D.C. (where he owns The Washington Post) and, demanding higher wages and better coronavirus protection for Amazon workers, erected a guillotine. I'm reporting that and not endorsing it—lasting social change will only come through nonviolent resistance—but I do think that symbolism should send a cold metal chill down the spine of anyone still buying the fantasies of late-stage capitalism.

Our postal tragedy: Louis DeJoy must be held accountable for the damage he's done

By MARTIN W.G. KING
New York Daily News

Martin W.G. King is retired from the National Crime Prevention Council, where he served as senior writer.

Benjamin Franklin, our first postmaster general, would weep.

Many Americans deplore what the current postmaster general, Louis DeJoy, has done to politicize and demobilize the United States Postal Service, a constitutionally mandated service. Some are also questioning whether DeJoy has committed ethical and financial transgressions in his short time in office.

DeJoy has said he will delay some of his controversial changes to the Postal Service until after the Nov. 3 election to avoid even the appearance of election tampering. But he has declared repeatedly that he won't replace the high-volume sorters that he has taken out of service.

DeJoy, a wealthy Republican donor who contributed $1.2 million to the Trump Victory Fund, $1.3 million to the Republican Party and who was is in charge of fundraising for the Republican National Convention, used the slowdowns he and others created to initially assert that his agency would be unable to process mail-in ballots in time for counting.

Were that to happen, tens of millions of voters who have long depended on this voting option would be disenfranchised. In a time of widespread contagion, this was an atrocious disregard of the Postal Service's mission. Moreover, in seeming to purposely cripple the revered agency, DeJoy may have violated the 1948 federal statute against tampering with or slowing the delivery of mail.

Likewise, DeJoy has flouted another government standard, the one forbidding financial conflicts of interest. He has kept more than $30 million in holdings in a company called XPO Logistics, one of the Postal Service's contractors, according to CNN. DeJoy earlier sold a company he owned, New Breed Logistics, to XPO for $615 million. New Breed was long the subject of complaints about a sexist and racist culture under DeJoy's leadership.

In the same report, CNN also described a dubious financial arrangement DeJoy has with Amazon, in which he recently sold up to $250,000 in stock but entered into a deal the same day to purchase up to $100,000 in much lower-priced stock options. Amazon—and DeJoy—could profit if Postal Service functions were to be curtailed.

Ordinarily, the board of governors of the U.S. Postal Service would investigate DeJoy's alleged wrongdoings. However, all the members are recent Trump appointees, and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin leaned on them heavily to appoint DeJoy, violating a 50-year tradition that has kept the Postal Service, an independent agency, free of political interference.

Unlike the vast swath of Americans who oppose the unwinding of the Postal Service and the 70% who support mail-in voting, an option that up to 80 million voters will choose this year, Congress is divided on the issue.

But in a rare bipartisan vote, the House of Representatives, in an urgent special session, adopted New York Democratic Rep. Carolyn Maloney's Delivering for America Act, which requires the return of the high-volume sorters and blocks most of DeJoy's other changes. Republican Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, however, has announced he won't bring the legislation to the floor, making it moot in its present form. The following Monday, DeJoy faced blistering criticism from such firebrands on the Democrat-dominated House Committee on Oversight and Reform as Rep. Steven Lynch, D-Mass., a former ironworker, and Rep. Katie Porter, D-Calif., a single mom and Harvard Law protege of Sen. Elizabeth Warren. Porter is known for her withering takedowns of Trump cronies, members of the administration and Wall Street tycoons.

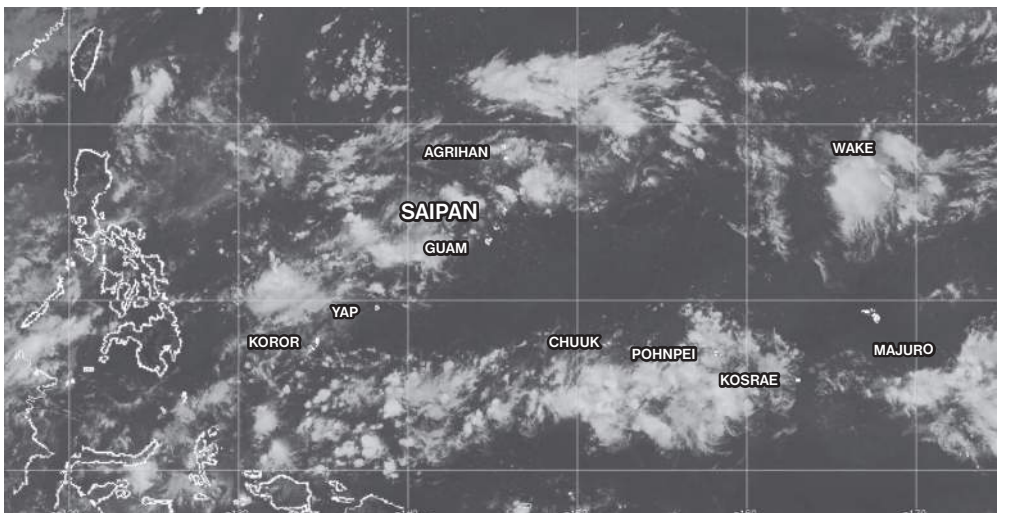
No one knows what further damage DeJoy will inflict. In the meantime, please pass Franklin a tissue.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers, except mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over and west of Guam each afternoon.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers, except mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over and west of Guam each afternoon.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
89° 77°	89° 78°	86° 76°	86° 76°	86° 76°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:28 AM, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Partly cloudy skies with spotty showers and light to gentle trade winds prevail across the region this morning. Buoys show seas between 3 and 5 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:05 AM	6:23 PM
Thursday	6:05 AM	6:22 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:21 PM
Sunday	6:05 AM	6:20 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:24 AM	11:03 PM
Thursday	-	12:16 PM	11:49 PM
Friday	-	1:09 PM	6:28 AM
Saturday	12:39 AM	2:04 PM	-
Sunday	1:34 AM	2:58 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 50°
Beijing	Sunny	81° / 61°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	91° / 81°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
London	Sunny	77° / 54°
Los Angeles	Sunny	101° / 77°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	57° / 36°
Miami	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
New York	Cloudy	74° / 64°
Osaka	Showers	91° / 79°
Paris	Showers	73° / 57°
Busan	Showers	84° / 72°
Rome	Sunny	95° / 70°
Salem	Cloudy	89° / 71°
San Francisco	Sunny	69° / 56°
Seoul	Cloudy	72° / 61°
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	88° / 75°
Washington, DC	Showers	74° / 66°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
6:07 AM	LOW TIDE	0.43
12:50 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.56
6:20 PM	LOW TIDE	1.13
11:35 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.64

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based sanitizer.
  - ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES

GUM-MNL

UA183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	7:30am	10:50pm	5 via Guam

Friday GUM-MNL will need THU overnight in GUM, so did not include in below.

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

ARRIVALS

MNL-GUM

UA184	10:45pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

Monday MNL-GUM will need TUE-WED overnight in GUM, so did not include in below.

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Business

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tbar is located next Dollar Store along Beach Road in Garapan.

Tbar:
Where every beverage is an experience

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tbar serves drinks that adds to the chill vibe of the island life.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Tbar serves milk and fruit tea series where customers can choose between a black or green tea base.

Coming from a family of business people, young entrepreneur Mulan Ta wanted a business that she enjoys and could share with the community. This vision was crystal clear when despite of the pandemic, Ta, her parents, and siblings opened their new business venture, Tbar. Tbar is located next to Dollar Days along Beach Road in Garapan where they serve different kinds of unique beverages such as milk tea, flavored tea, and Vietnamese iced coffee.

"The concept of Tbar came about in the middle of 2019. We knew we wanted to focus on tea and coffee beverages and include our last name which starts with the letter 'T.' Tbar is a play on tea and 'T' hence the name 'T Bar.' We initially wanted to open in March 2020, however, when the pandemic hit we had to push back and used that time to perfect our milk tea and boba recipes until it was deemed safe to open," Ta said.

"Currently we offer milk tea, fruit tea, and Vietnamese iced coffee. Our popular drinks are winter melon milk tea, peach mango tea, passion fruit tea, and Vietnamese iced coffee... We believe our shop offers an experience that is different from other drink shops because we make your drinks to order and can customize your sugar/ice levels and the milk and fruit tea series, customers can choose between a black or green tea base. To top off your drink, you can include add-ins such as boba (tapioca pearls), aloe jelly, coconut jelly, and basil seeds," Ta added.

The beverages that they have is one thing but the ambiance of Tbar is another feature that customers can look forward to. The ambiance is modern, clean, and warm. It invites people to really enjoy their drink and sitting on stool bars while talking to friends or having a little work done in their laptop.

"Tbar has a chill vibe and it was the feel that we were going for just like how the island lifestyle is...You can see the baristas through our glass windows preparing your drink as soon as it is ordered… We plan to sell more specialty drinks, ice cream and some snacks in the near future," Ta said.

"We plan to eventually open earlier and more days…We want our customers to leave feeling satisfied but wanting more knowing they can customize their drinks to their hearts desire," Ta added.

Tbar is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 2pm-6pm. For more information, go to their Facebook page and Instagram page and type tbar.cnmi.

Hopes fading for coronavirus deal as Congress returns

WASHINGTON (AP)—At least there won't be a government shutdown.

But as lawmakers straggle back to Washington for an abbreviated preelection session, hopes are dimming for another coronavirus relief bill—or much else.

Talks between top Democrats and the Trump administration broke off last month and remain off track, with the bipartisan unity that drove almost $3 trillion in COVID-19 rescue legislation into law this spring replaced by toxic partisanship and a return to Washington dysfunction.

Expectations in July and August that a fifth bipartisan pandemic response bill would eventually be birthed despite increased obstacles has been replaced by genuine pessimism. Recent COVID-related conversations among key players have led to nothing.

Democrats seem secure in their political position, with President Donald Trump and several Senate GOP incumbents lagging in the polls. Trump is seeking to sideline the pandemic as a campaign issue, and Republicans aren't interested in a deal on Democratic terms—even as needs like school aid enjoy widespread support.

Poisonous relationships among key leaders like House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows give little reason for confidence about overcoming obstacles on the cost, scope and details of a potential relief bill. Pelosi recently referred to Meadows as "whatever his name is," while the Meadows-run White House during a press briefing ran a video loop of Pelosi's controversial visit to a San Francisco hair salon.

Trump said Monday that Democrats "don't want to make a deal because they think that if the country does as badly as possible ... that's good for the Democrats."

"I am taking the high road," he told reporters at the White House. "I'm taking the high road by not seeing them."

All of this imperils the chances for another round of $1,200 direct payments delivered under Trump's name, the restoration of more generous unemployment benefits to those who've lost their jobs because of the pandemic, updates to a popular business subsidy program, and money to help schools reopen and states and local governments avoid layoffs.

United helps customers navigate travel restrictions with new online, interactive map

CHICAGO—United Airlines introduces a new interactive map tool on united.com and the United mobile app that allows customers to filter and view destinations' COVID-19 related travel restrictions. The Destination Travel Guide, a first among U.S. airlines, provides an interactive, color coded map to highlight if a destination is closed, partially open or fully open for travel, and will also note if any tests or self-quarantining is required for travel. Customers can easily filter destinations to view local regulations, such as social distancing and mask enforcement, as well as to see if hotels, restaurants and other leisure outlets are open to the public.

"We know it's a challenge to keep up with the ever-changing list of travel restrictions, policies and regulations so we are offering a simple, easy tool that helps customers decide where to travel next," said Linda Jojo, Executive Vice President for Technology and Chief Digital Officer. "By providing the most up-to-date information on the destinations we serve, customers can compare and shop for travel with greater confidence and help them find the destinations that best fit their preferences."

The Destination Travel Guide currently highlights travel restrictions and leisure offerings in the U.S. by state, and will expand to include all international destinations the airline serves in the coming weeks. Customers viewing the color-coded map can click on each state to view local regulations and travel guidances. There is also the option to filter the map by state to view specific information on each destination, including:

- Medical certificate needed (such as negative COVID test)
- Non-essential shops open
- Tourism accommodation open
- Restaurants open
- Bars and cafes open
- Museum and heritage sites open
- Mask in public required
- Physical distancing required

The new map feature follows several recent innovations from United that were designed to enhance the travel experience. As part of its United CleanPlus program, the airline recently introduced touchless check-in, text alerts for passengers on standby and upgrade lists to reduce person-to-person interaction, and a new chat function to give customers a contactless option to receive immediate access to information about cleaning and safety procedures.

Committed to ensuring a safe journey

Through the United CleanPlus program, the airline is committed to putting health and safety at the forefront of every customer's journey, with the goal of delivering an industry-leading standard of cleanliness. United has teamed up with Clorox and Cleveland Clinic to redefine cleaning and health safety procedures from check-in to landing and has implemented more than a dozen new policies, protocols and innovations designed with the safety of customers and employees in mind, including:

- Requiring all travelers – including crew members – to wear face coverings and potentially revoking travel privileges for customers who do not follow these requirements, as underscored in a recent video from United CEO Scott Kirby.
- Using state-of-the-art high-efficiency (HEPA) filters on most United mainline aircraft to circulate air and remove up to 99.97% of airborne particles.
- Using electrostatic spraying before departure for enhanced cabin sanitation.
- Adding a step to the check-in process, based on a recommendation from the Cleveland Clinic, requiring customers to acknowledge they do not have symptoms for COVID-19 and agree to follow our policies, including wearing a mask on board.
- Offering customers a touchless baggage check-in experience at more than 200 airports across the United States; United is the first U.S. airline to make this technology available.

For more details on all the ways United is helping keep customers safe during their journey, please visit united.com/cleanplus. ***(PR)***

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
28,133.31	3,426.96	11,313.14
−159.42	−28.10	−144.97
0.56%	0.81%	1.27%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3742	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7503	Russian Ruble	74.8638
British Pound	0.7610	Indian Rupee	73.1594	Singapore Dollar	1.3674
Canadian Dollar	1.3117	Japanese Yen	106.2590	South Korean Won	1165.25
Chinese Yuan	6.7437	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1318	Swiss Franc	0.9178
Euro	0.8477	New Zealand Dollar	1.4959	Taiwan Dollar	28.8033
		Philippine Peso	47.6984	Thailand Baht	31.4140

Nation

The Summer of COVID-19 ends with health officials worried

(AP)—The Lost Summer of 2020 drew to a close Monday with many big Labor Day gatherings canceled across the U.S. and health authorities pleading with people to keep their distance from others so as not to cause another coronavirus surge like the one that followed Memorial Day.

Downtown Atlanta was quiet as the 85,000 or so people who come dressed as their favorite superheroes or sci-fi characters for the annual Dragon Con convention met online instead. Huge football stadiums at places like Ohio State and the University of Texas sat empty. Many Labor Day parades marking the unofficial end of summer were called off, and masks were usually required at the few that went on.

"Please, please do not make the same mistakes we all made on Memorial Day weekend. Wear your masks, watch your distance and wash your hands," said Dr. Raul Pino, state health director in Orange County, Florida, which includes the Orlando area.

A jet skier passes a patriotic shanty-boat owned by AJ Crea on Pontoosuc Lake on Labor Day in Pittsfield, Mass., Monday, Sept. 7, 2020.
BEN GARVER/THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE VIA AP

The U.S. had about 1.6 million confirmed COVID-19 cases around Memorial Day, before backyard parties and other gatherings contributed to a summertime surge. It now has more than 6.2 million cases, according to the count kept by Johns Hopkins University. Deaths from the virus more than doubled over the summer to nearly 190,000.

In New Orleans, which had one of the largest outbreaks outside of New York City this spring, city officials reminded residents that COVID-19 doesn't take a holiday after they received 36 calls about large gatherings and 46 calls about businesses not following safety rules on Friday and Saturday.

"This is not who we are, and this is not how we—as a community—get back to where we want to be," the city said.

In South Carolina, which was a hot spot of contagion over the summer before cases started to decline in early August, 8,000 fans, including Gov. Henry McMaster, were allowed to attend the NASCAR race at the Darlington Raceway on Sunday. State officials approved a socially distant attendance plan at the track, which can hold 47,000 people.

It was the biggest gathering in the state since the outbreak started six months ago. Many rows and seats were kept empty to keep groups of fans apart, and people were asked to wear masks.

Debbie Katsanos drove down from New Hampshire with her husband, her father and a friend. It was their first trip out of state since COVID-19 started spreading. They had time off because the Labor Day weekend fair where they typically sell concessions canceled this year.

Katsanos said they wore masks at all times when they were away from their motor home, ate in a restaurant only once on the way down and tried to stay socially distant when visiting with other people at their campground.

"It's probably our only chance to get somewhere before the summer ends, " Katsanos said Monday as she sat in traffic on Interstate 95 in North Carolina on the long trip home. "I saw it as the turning of the corner. We survived this. Let's live life a little."

Scorched earth: Record 2 million acres burned in California

SHAVER LAKE, Calif. (AP)—Wildfires have burned a record 2 million acres in California this year, and the danger for more destruction is so high the U.S. Forest Service announced Monday it was closing all eight national forests in the southern half of the state.

After a typically dry summer, California is parched heading into fall and what normally is the most dangerous time for wildfires. Two of the three largest fires in state history are burning in the San Francisco Bay Area. More than 14,000 firefighters are battling those fires and dozens of others more around California.

A three-day heat wave brought triple-digit temperatures to much of the state during Labor Day weekend. But right behind it was a weather system with dry winds that could fan fires. The state's largest utility, Pacific Gas & Electric, was preparing to cut power to 158,000 customers in 21 counties in the northern half of the state to reduce the possibility its lines and other equipment could spark new fires.

Randy Moore, regional forester for the Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region that covers California, announced the national forest closures and said the decision would be re-evaluated daily. Campgrounds at all national forests in the state also were closed.

"The wildfire situation throughout California is dangerous and must be taken seriously." Moore said. "Existing fires are displaying extreme fire behavior, new fire starts are likely, weather conditions are worsening, and we simply do not have enough resources to fully fight and contain every fire."

Lynne Tolmachoff, spokeswoman for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or Cal Fire, said it's "unnerving" to have reached a record for acreage burned when September and October usually are the worst for fires because vegetation has dried out and high winds are more common. The previous high was 1.96 million acres burned in 2018. Cal Fire began tracking the numbers in 1987.

While the two mammoth Bay Area fires were largely contained after burning for three weeks, firefighters struggled to corral several other major blazes ahead of the expected winds. Evacuation orders were expanded to more mountain communities Monday as the largest blaze, the Creek Fire, churned through the Sierra National Forest in Central California.

It was one of many recent major fires that has displayed terrifyingly swift movement. The fire moved 15 miles (24 kilometers) in a single day and burned 56 square miles (145.04 square kilometers).

Debra Rios wasn't home when the order came to evacuate her hometown of Auberry, just northeast of Fresno. Sheriff's deputies went to her ranch property to pick up her 92-year-old mother, Shirley MacLean. They reunited at an evacuation center.

"I hope like heck the fire doesn't reach my little ranch," Rios said. "It's not looking good right now. It's an awfully big fire."

Mountain roads saw a steady stream of cars and trucks leaving the community of about 2,300 on Monday afternoon.

Firefighters working in steep terrain saved the tiny town of Shaver Lake from flames that roared down hillsides toward a marina. About 30 houses were destroyed in the remote hamlet of Big Creek, resident Toby Wait said.

"About half the private homes in town burned down," he said. "Words cannot even begin to describe the devastation of this community."

Black woman to lead police force reeling from Breonna Taylor

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)—For the first time, a Black woman will lead Kentucky's Louisville Metro Police Department, which has been been heavily criticized since officers fatally shot Breonna Taylor in March.

Mayor Greg Fischer announced on Monday that Yvette Gentry will serve as interim chief of the department, according to The Courier-Journal.

Gentry is a former Louisville Metro Police deputy chief who retired from the force in 2014. She will be the first woman and the third African American to serve as chief of the Louisville Metro Police. Interim Chief Robert Schroeder plans to retire at the end of September after four months in the role. Schroeder took over on June 1 when Fischer fired longtime Chief Steve Conrad after learning officers did not have body cameras turned on during the fatal police shooting of the owner of a popular West End eatery.

Gentry's appointment comes at a low point in relations between police and Black residents in Louisville. Protesters have marched for more than 100 consecutive days since Taylor, a 26-year-old Black emergency medical technician, was shot and killed as officers attempted to serve a no-knock search warrant at her apartment. Protesters want serious changes to the city's police and other systems they say have perpetuated systemic racism.

Taylor's death is under investigation by the FBI and Kentucky Attorney General Daniel Cameron, who is expected to announce in coming weeks whether criminal charges will be brought against the officers. Authorities have said the officers fired back after Taylor's boyfriend started shooting at them.

In an emotional speech after Monday's announcement, Gentry addressed residents of the West End neighborhood who have been at the heart of more than 100 days of protest over racial injustice since Taylor's death.

"I'm not here just to help you unboard your beautiful buildings downtown," she said. "I'm here to work with you to unboard the community that I served with all my heart in west Louisville, that was boarded for 20 or 30 years."

She said the past four months have been tough on police officers as well as on protesters, adding that it's tough "seeing things just feel so hopeless."

"I will just say: That is just a glimpse of how a lot of people have been feeling for a long time, and we can't go back," Gentry said. "I think our city is at a point of reckoning that only truth can bring us out of. Only truth can break us out; only truth can take away darkness."

Gentry told the newspaper in an interview that she doesn't want to be the permanent police chief—and didn't apply for the position.

"When you live in Louisville, and you raise your kids here, like I do, and your family's here, I want that chief to be successful," said Gentry, a Louisville native. "So, even though I wasn't interested in the full-time job, I realized that somebody has to stand in the gap."

Fischer is expected to name a new leader by the end of 2020.

In an interview, Gentry acknowledged that improving community relations, reducing crime and boosting officer morale simultaneously won't be an easy task, but said she's in as "good a position as anyone could be."

Asia

Duterte pardons US Marine in transgender killing

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president pardoned a U.S. Marine on Monday in a surprise move that will free him from imprisonment in the 2014 killing of a transgender Filipino woman that sparked anger in the former American colony.

President Rodrigo Duterte said he decided to pardon Lance Cpl. Joseph Scott Pemberton because the Marine was not treated fairly after opponents blocked his early release for good conduct in detention.

A left-wing human rights group, Karapatan, immediately condemned the pardon as a "despicable and shameless mockery of justice and servility to U.S. imperialist interests."

Pemberton was convicted of homicide and has been serving a prison term of six to 10 years for the killing of Jennifer Laude in a motel in Olongapo city, northwest of Manila. His lawyer, Rowena Garcia-Flores, told The Associated Press that Pemberton was already aware of Duterte's decision when she called him.

"I heard the news," Garcia-Flores quoted the 25-year-old Pemberton as saying. "I'm very happy."

Pemberton

Meeting Pemberton in detention a few days ago, she said he expressed his willingness to apologize to the Laude family even belatedly. Pemberton would likely be removed from the Marines due to his conviction and plans to work in the U.S., Garcia-Flores added.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque, who once served as a lawyer for the Laude family, said the presidential pardon would mean the immediate release of Pemberton from detention.

"The president has erased the punishment that should be imposed on Pemberton. What the president did not erase was the conviction of Pemberton. He's still a killer," Roque told reporters.

Laude's family denounced Duterte's action as a grave injustice, including to the LGBTQ community, family lawyer Virginia Suarez said.

Duterte is one of the most vocal critics in Southeast Asia of U.S. security policies. But on Monday he said, "If there is a time where you are called upon to be fair, be fair."

Last week, the Regional Trial Court in Olongapo city, which handled Pemberton's case, ordered authorities to release him early from detention for good conduct, but Laude's family appealed, blocking the Marine's early release. Roque said the Department of Justice was planning a separate appeal.

The court order rekindled perceptions that American military personnel who run afoul of Philippine laws can get special treatment under the allies' Visiting Forces Agreement, which provides the legal framework for temporary visits by U.S. forces to the country for large-scale combat exercises.

Pemberton, an anti-tank missile operator from New Bedford, Massachusetts, was one of thousands of American and Philippine military personnel who participated in joint exercises in the country in 2014.

He and a group of other Marines were on leave after the exercises and met Laude and her friends at a bar in Olongapo, a city known for its nightlife outside Subic Bay, a former U.S. Navy base.

India now 2nd behind US in virus cases amid economic pain

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's increasing coronavirus caseload made the Asian giant the world's second-worst-hit country behind the United States on Monday, as its efforts to head off economic disaster from the pandemic gain urgency.

The 90,802 cases added in the past 24 hours pushed India's total past Brazil with more than 4.2 million cases. India is now behind only the United States, where more than 6.2 million people have been infected, according to Johns Hopkins University.

India's Health Ministry on Monday also reported 1,016 new deaths for a total of 71,642, the third-highest national toll.

The world's second-most populous country with 1.4 billion people, India has been recording the world's largest daily increases in coronavirus cases for almost a month. Despite over 2 million new cases in the past month and the virus spreading through the country's smaller towns and villages, the Indian government has continued relaxing restrictions to try and resuscitate the economy.

On Monday, the Delhi Metro, which serves India's sprawling capital, New Delhi, and adjoining areas, resumed operations after remaining shuttered for more than five months. The commuters were scarce and stations deserted. Only asymptomatic people were allowed to board the trains, with masks, social distancing and temperature checks mandatory.

Security personnel used metal detectors attached to rods to ensure social distancing during frisking at the stations, and commuters were allowed to enter only after sanitizing their hands.

New Delhi's streets have already returned to their normal bustle, and people are again flocking to markets. The city's bars will reopen on Wednesday.

The reopenings come after India's economy shrank faster than any other major nation's, nearly 24% in the last quarter.

India's economic pain dates to the demonetization of the nation's currency in 2016 and a hasty rollout of a goods and services tax the next year. But the strict virus lockdown that started on March 24 further exacerbated the economic woes.

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi ordered everyone in the country to stay indoors, the whole economy shut down within four hours. Millions lost their jobs instantly and tens of thousands of migrant workers, out of money and fearing starvation, poured out of cities and headed back to villages. The unprecedented migration not only hollowed out India's economy but also spread the virus to the far reaches of the country.

Now, as cases surge, most of the country, except in high-risk areas, has already opened up, with authorities saying they have little choice.

"While lives are important, livelihoods are equally important," Rajesh Bhushan, the top official of India's federal health ministry, said at a news briefing last week.

Almost 60% of India's virus cases are now coming from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, the nation's most populous state. But infections are also returning to areas that had managed to slow the spread of the virus, offsetting marginal gains.

Almost 300 Rohingya found on beach in Indonesia's Aceh

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia (AP)—Almost 300 Rohingya Muslims were found on a beach in Indonesia's Aceh province on Monday after months at sea, officials said.

The group arrived at Ujong Blang beach from one boat and were reported by local residents. Officials arrived and found that the Rohingya had dispersed into three groups after landing, Banda Sakti Subdistrict Military Commander Roni Mahendra said.

"We persuaded them and asked the local residents to help until they gathered again," Mahendra said.

The 181 women, 100 men and 14 children were given shelter and received help from local residents, police, military and health providers.

"Now we are still waiting for further instruction from our supervisors," Mahendra said.

Indrika Ratwatte, the director for Asia and the Pacific for UNHCR, the U.N. refugee agency, said the Rohingya had survived about seven months at sea in desperate conditions, with some needing medical treatment. About 330 Rohingya are understood to have embarked on the journey in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh in February, he said.

"Over 30 are estimated to have died en route," Ratwatte said.

The group tried repeatedly to disembark over more than 200 days at sea but were not permitted to land, he said.

Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslims have fled Buddhist-majority Myanmar due to a military crackdown, and many live in densely crowded refugee camps in Bangladesh. Rights activists fear large numbers of Rohingya have gone to sea, fleeing ongoing persecution in Myanmar and hardship in the camps in Bangladesh, where traffickers may promise them a better life abroad.

Amnesty International Indonesia Executive Director Usman Hamid said Rohingya refugees are still willing to risk everything in search of safety.

"It is appalling that the Indonesian authorities are waiting for local fishermen to take the initiative in carrying out these rescues. The government, not private individuals, should have saved these lives," Hamid said.

†Cypriana Faustina Taitano Kapileo

Lovingly known as "Ponce, Prana"
Born to life on NOVEMBER 10, 1993 | Called to Eternal life on SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

In her new Life, Prana will be met at the gates of Heaven by her:

Father: †Canice Quitugua Kapileo
Maternal Grandparents: †Rita Sablan and †Augustine Igitol Taitano
Paternal Grandparents: †Faustina Quitugua and †Felipe Misuk Kapileo
Aunts & Uncles: †Julita T. Palacios, †Venicia T. Suel, †Juan Q. Kapileo, †Antonio Q. Kapileo, †Julita S. Kapileo, †Singeru Techur

Cousins: †Maria Teresa Risa Taitano, †Singeru Techur, Jr., †Leonisa Techur, †Peter Techur, †Dean Anthony Q. Kapileo, †Julia S. Kapileo, †Jay Eric S. Kapileo

Nephew & Nieces: †Alandadonn K. Malwelbug, †Kirsten Tenseley T. Techur, †Kristina Edwina K. Malwelbug, †Tiana K. Malwelbug, †Angel A. Kapileo

Her loving memories will forever live in the hearts of her:

Mother: Veronica Esther (Noning) Taitano Kapileo

Brothers & Sister: Jocelyn Aldan & Kevin Lee T. Kapileo (Zoshanny D'AnaLeigh, Ri'Onica Ikepela), Josephine Christine T. Kapileo & Danny Joe O. Fitial (Autumn Renea), Nunu Kuke T. Kapileo

Godchildren: Julia Faustina Ayuyu Kapileo, Neo Jared M. Kapileo, Zoschanny D'AnaLeigh Aldan Kapileo

Maternal Aunts & Uncles: Pedro S. Taitano & Danila S. Norita, Diego Palacios, Maryann T. & Juan Mendiola, Emilly N. & Joseph S. Taitano, Elaine T. & Henry Iguel, Daniel Suel

Paternal Aunts & Uncles: Dionicia K. Techur, Pauline DLG. & Luis Q. Kapileo, Jacinta Q. Kapileo, Anna Q. Kapileo, Ignacia K. & Ferdous Bhuiyan, Esther K. & Felipe Q. Kapileo, Teresa P. & Joseph Q. Kapileo, Jesus Q. Kapileo, Ursula A. & Fabian Nick Q. Kapileo

Numerous nephews, nieces, cousins, aunts, uncles, friends will miss her dearly.

Mass is being offered at Bithen Delos Remedios Church, Tanapag, at 6:00 p.m. from September 7-12, 2020 and at 7:00 a.m. on September 13, 2020.

On Monday, September 14, 2020, at 8:30 a.m. she will be escorted from the Commonwealth Health Center Chapel to the Bithen Delos Remedios Church. Viewing will begin immediately after the rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:30 a.m. and then our beloved Prana will be laid to rest at theTanapag Public Cemetery.

Your thoughts, prayers, words of comfort and presence are sincerely appreciated. Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisou, Kinisou Chapur, and Thank you.

Veronica Esther (Noning) T. Kapileo,
Children, grandchildren

World

UK judge rejects bid to delay Assange extradition hearing

LONDON (AP)—A British judge on Monday rejected a request by lawyers for WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange to delay his extradition hearing until next year to give his lawyers more time to respond to U.S. allegations that he conspired with hackers to obtain classified information.

The adjournment request came on the first day of a London court hearing where Assange is fighting American prosecutors' attempt to send him to the U.S. to stand trial on spying charges.

U.S. prosecutors have indicted the 49-year-old Australian on 18 espionage and computer misuse charges over WikiLeaks' publication of secret U.S. military documents a decade ago. The charges carry a maximum sentence of 175 years in prison.

Assange's lawyers say the prosecution is a politically motivated abuse of power that will stifle press freedom and put journalists around the world at risk.

The U.S. Justice Department expanded its case against Assange in a new indictment announced in June, though it did not introduce new charges. But Assange attorney Mark Summers said it was "an impossible task" for the legal team to deal with the new allegations in time for Monday's court hearing, especially since they had only "limited access" to the imprisoned Assange.

He said District Judge Vanessa Baraitser should excise the new American claims, which he said were sprung on the defense "out of the blue."

The judge rejected the request, saying the defense had declined an earlier opportunity in August to postpone the hearing. The defense then asked for the case to be adjourned until January. Baraitser refused, saying Assange's lawyers had "ample time" before Monday to express their concerns.

The case has already been held up for months because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Assange, who has spent 16 months in a British prison, sat in the dock at the Old Bailey criminal court and formally refused the U.S. extradition demand. Assange, who lawyers say has suffered physical and mental ill-health because of his ordeal, wore a suit and tie and spoke clearly to confirm his name and date of birth.

Several dozen supporters, including fashion designer Vivienne Westwood and Assange's partner, Stella Moris, gathered outside the courthouse, chanting, banging drums and calling his prosecution a threat to press freedom.

"Julian Assange is the trigger, he is shining the light on all the corruption in the world," Westwood said.

American authorities allege that Assange conspired with U.S. army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to hack into a Pentagon computer and release hundreds of thousands of secret diplomatic cables and military files on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The new June indictment accuses Assange of recruiting hackers at conferences in Europe and Asia, recruiting a teenager to hack into the computer of a former WikiLeaks associate and conspiring with members of hacking groups known as LulzSec and Anonymous. U.S. prosecutors say the evidence underscores Assange's efforts to procure and release classified information, allegations that form the basis of criminal charges.

Assange's lawyers, however, argue that he is a journalist entitled to First Amendment protection and say the leaked documents exposed U.S. military wrongdoing. Among the files released by WikiLeaks was video of a 2007 Apache helicopter attack by American forces in Baghdad that killed 11 people, including two Reuters journalists.

Assange's legal troubles began in 2010, when he was arrested in London at the request of Sweden, which wanted to question him about allegations of rape and sexual assault made by two women. He refused to go to Stockholm, saying he feared extradition or illegal rendition to the United States or to the U.S. prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In 2012, Assange sought refuge inside the Ecuadorian Embassy, where he was beyond the reach of U.K. and Swedish authorities—but also effectively a prisoner, unable to leave the tiny diplomatic mission in London.

Southern Africa's hunger upsurge blamed on climate, COVID-19

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—An estimated 45 million people in southern Africa are food insecure, with the number of people without access to adequate affordable and nutritious food up 10% from last year, the World Food Program said Monday.

The COVID-19 pandemic, coupled with climate change and the struggling economies of several countries, are the main causes of the food insecurity, said international aid organizations in a webinar organized by the Foreign Correspondents Association of Southern Africa.

Zimbabwe is the worst affected country, with its number of food insecure people expected to reach 8.6 million by the end of this year, World Food Program director in southern Africa, Lola Castro, said.

"We are going to see levels of food insecurity that we have never seen for many years," in 13 of the region's 16 countries, Castro said.

"We have chronic underlying causes that we know very well, and they are basically mostly related to climatic shocks ... drought, floods or big cyclones," said Castro.

She said COVID-19 was an additional emergency that has enormously hurt the livelihoods of many poor people in the region. Lockdowns have made large numbers of people unemployed, increasing food insecurity, she said.

Many farmers, especially women, had been severely affected by COVID-19 and its impact on food production, said ActionAid Africa humanitarian advisor, Chikondi Chabvuta.

"Southern Africa has faced impacts of climate change for the past four years nonstop. ... I have witnessed the short-lived hope in people's eyes these past four years when seeds are distributed or exchanged in the hope for a better yield next season, only to be disappointed by more climate disasters," she said.

"COVID-19 is exposing the existing systematic weaknesses of the regional policies meant to develop resilient food security," said Chabvuta. "This includes reliance on imports for agricultural production for food supply."

Zimbabwean farmer Juliet Hove said lack of access to water and the markets were also major problems for small-scale farmers in her country.

According to Hove, COVID-19 restrictions on movements were preventing small-scale farmers from traveling to marketplaces to sell seeds and produce, reducing their ability to earn an income.

Good Housekeeping

Gretchen's table: Burgers with spicy-sweet pickled peppers

Sweet and spicy pickled peppers add color and a bit of heat to a grilled burger.
(GRETCHEN MCKAY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE/TNS)

By GRETCHEN MCKAY
PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Cucumber pickles are a favorite condiment for burgers and hot dogs, but they're not the only briny vegetable worth pulling out of a jar.

Pickled peppers also can add a tangy crunch to those barbecue favorites, and they're just as easy to make as refrigerator dill or bread and butter pickles. All that's required is some vinegar, a bit of sugar or honey and a colorful mix of hot and sweet peppers to create some heat.

I sliced the peppers into thin spears, scraping out the seeds and veins with the tip of a knife. (You might want to wear gloves, as chili peppers can burn and sting the skin and God help you if you touch your eyes after handling them!) You also could chop them into small chunks if you prefer a spoonable relish.

The recipe is easily adaptable to whatever peppers you have on hand or find at the farmers market—my mix included several jalapenos, a couple of serranos and a habanero along with sweet bell peppers. Yowza!

BURGERS WITH SPICY-SWEET PICKLED PEPPERS

PG tested

For peppers
1/2 pound assorted hot chili peppers
1 red bell pepper
1 yellow bell pepper
1 or 2 shallots, thinly sliced
2 or 3 cloves garlic, peeled and smashed
1 cup apple cider or white wine vinegar
1 cup water
2 tablespoons honey or sugar
1 teaspoon kosher salt
Pinch of red pepper flakes

For burgers
2 pounds freshly ground beef (80/20 blend)
Kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper
2 teaspoons vegetable oil
4 slices pepper jack cheese
4 burger buns, toasted

Prepare peppers: Carefully stem and seed the peppers, then slice into 1/4-inch rounds, chunks or thin slices. Place in a glass jar. You also can chop them into small pieces if you prefer a pepper relish. Add shallots and garlic.

Bring vinegar to a boil with water, honey, salt and pepper flakes. Pour the boiling vinegar over the pepper mixture and cover with the jar lid. You may have to use a butter knife or spoon to gently push down the peppers so they all fit and to remove any air pockets.

Allow peppers to cool to room temperature and store in the refrigerator until you're ready to eat them (give them at least 4 hours to start absorbing the vinegar).

When ready to prepare burgers, preheat grill to medium-high.

Divide ground meat into four even 1/2-pound portions. Form into four 4-inch-wide patties, pressing a slight depression in center of each with your thumb or a spoon. Season liberally with kosher salt, black pepper and other spices, if desired. (I used a little Cajun spice.)

Lightly brush the grill grates with oil, then grill the patties, indentation-side up, until marked on the bottom, about 5 minutes. Flip and cook until marked and slightly firm, about 3 more minutes for medium doneness.

Top each burger with a slice cheese during the last minute of cooking; cover the grill to melt.

Place burgers on toasted buns and top with a heap of pickled peppers. Serve immediately.

Makes 4 burgers.

Life & Style

Q&A: John David Washington talks starring in 'Tenet'

By GARY THOMPSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WARNER BROS. PICTURES/TNS
Elizabeth Debicki and John David Washington star in "Tenet."

John David Washington, star of the new movie "Tenet," may have inherited more than acting talent from dad Denzel—he also has his father's sense of proportion when it comes to show business and social justice.

The younger Washington, who rose to prominence via his title role in Spike Lee's Oscar-nominated "BlacKkKlansman," was in the middle of a press blitz for his new movie "Tenet" when the Jacob Blake shooting occurred, and he joined NBA players and others by taking a professional pause to focus attention on the incident, and on the wider movement of Black Lives Matter.

We talked to Washington about that decision, about his career and about his new movie.

Q: We were going to do this interview a week ago, but police in Kenosha shot Jacob Blake, protests erupted, and you decided that business as usual was not appropriate. Why?

A: I really thought the NBA showed leadership. You know we serve our purpose in what we do, through our occupations, but seeing what they did, and thinking about it, I thought personally that I wanted to follow suit. That this wasn't the time to celebrate. And doing press these last couple weeks has been an occasion of celebration and positivity. We were celebrating a return of the event film, a return to theaters. And again, that wasn't the time to celebrate.

Q: You say one of the things you are celebrating with "Tenet" is a return to theaters. The movie has done pretty well— it's on its way to making $100 million worldwide already in areas where the virus is reasonably suppressed— indicating that mask-wearing movie fans want to get back to theaters, provided it can be done safely. Do you think the communal experience of movie-going can bring people together, in some useful way?

A: Yes. I may be a bit biased because I'm in the movie business, because I wanted to be an actor my entire life, because I have a special relationship with seeing movies in theaters, Being a kid, seeing these movie projected on the big screen and thinking I wanted to be just like (those actors).

I loved being totally lost, suspending reality because I'm just absorbed into the story. I think if I have that experience many other kids and young adults and adults can as well, especially because of the times and what we're living through.

Q: You made "BlacKkKlansman" with Spike Lee, a non-fiction movie about white supremacy, which by the way looks more relevant than ever.

A: Unfortunately.

Q: And now you've made an entirely different kind of movie with Christopher Nolan (the director of the "Dark Knight Rises," "Inception," "Dunkirk," "The Prestige"), a fantasy thriller in which your character, a U.S. intelligence agent, confronts an existential threat by sinister forces that have found a way to "invert" time, skipping among the future and past and present, sometimes invading individual moments in time with ability to move forward or backward as they choose. The movies and directors seem wildly different, but is there anything those Nolan and Lee share?

A: I think Chris and Spike are obviously different in terms of their styles but they are both provocateurs. They really challenge audiences, each in his own way. Spike might have a more direct approach, and you always know exactly who and what he's challenging. But what you see right away is that they both absolutely love movies. They love what they do, love the craft, the production, creating something from the ground up.

Q: Nolan also works social commentary into his movies, but he is sneaky about it. In "The Dark Knight Rises," there's a scene of armed people preventing a group of refugees from crossing a bridge to safety, which invoked an ugly incident that happened after Hurricane Katrina.

A: Whoa, really?

Q: Yes, I asked him about it specifically.

A: What did he say?

Q: He said yes! And there are provocative elements in "Tenet" as well. We all know that things we've done in the past inform the present, but "Tenet"— without giving too much away— asks us to consider the ramifications of the person we might become, the impact of things we do down the line, the moral dimensions of our future selves.

A: Well this is very difficult to discuss without getting into spoilers, but I'll put it this way: It's about how point of view can change, how time changes motivation. How time can put you on the wrong side of history. How time can make you the antagonist, not the protagonist, even if you think you are the protagonist.

Q: It's a mind-bender, for sure. And reviewers and fans are understandably fixating on the complexity and implications of time inversion in "Tenet." But the movie also turns out be a gloriously weird and complex buddy movie, between your character and the agent played by Robert Pattinson. Also there is a substantial storyline built around your character's effort to protect an abused woman (Elizabeth Debicki) from her husband (Kenneth Branagh).

A: (Laughs) Yes! Thanks you. That's a great compliment. Unfortunately we can't really get into specifics, but I didn't realize how heavily Chris leans on that— performances and chemistry— to help take the audience along, even if they are not understanding the rules of inversion or the intricacies of the sci-fi element. They can be entertained by the explosions and the big set pieces, which is why we are all there and eating our popcorn, but ultimately we have to invest in the characters in order to care about the other stuff.

Q: At the same time, "Tenet" IS quintessential Nolan, like "Inception," or "The Prestige" or "Memento," the kind of feast that is difficult to consume and digest in just one sitting.

A: It's worth seeing more than once just to see Kenneth Branagh speak backwards in a Russian accent. The movie is definitely intended to be viewed more than one time. And the fact that it's being released now may be a blessing. It's the kind of movie people can sit in a theater and enjoy on a second and third viewing, because there will be discussions, and they will be a lot of fun.

Attention paid to ex-fiancee angers wife for 20 years

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I were married 30 years when we ran into an old girlfriend (and ex-fiancee) of mine at a function. I spent a good part of the evening dancing with her and ignoring my wife. My wife says I was "indecent" with the girlfriend, and it hurt her badly.

It was 20 years ago, but my wife lets me hear about it every day. I can't take it any longer. She refuses to get help or forgive me. Our marriage has gone downhill ever since. What do you recommend I do to make it up to her? I've tried a few things, to no avail.

PAST ISN'T IN THE PAST

DEAR PAST: Your performance at that function must have been deeply humiliating to your wife. Was your regrettable behavior with your ex-fiancee a one-time thing or has it happened since?

You stated this happened 20 years ago and you have attempted to make amends to no avail. Unless there's more to this story than you have written, it appears your wife enjoys carrying a grudge and punishing you—which is, in my opinion, worse than what you did.

Please quit allowing her to continue to punish you. Get counseling if you need to, and offer her the option of counseling again. Understand that if she refuses, you have important decisions to make about your future. Discuss with your therapist what emotionally healthy options there may be for you, but don't continue to settle for the status quo.

DEAR ABBY: My husband's mother passed away recently after a long illness. She lived in another state. He couldn't be there while she was sick or when she died because he was also ill. He carries a lot of guilt about it.

I saw a cellphone message from her before she died, saying she was dying and asking him to come help her. I deleted it because hearing it would have put added stress on him and made him sicker. Now I feel guilty. Should I keep quiet or confess? He still is not well.

GUILTY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW

DEAR GUILTY: You made a rational choice for a solid reason when you decided to delete the message instead of sharing it with your husband. If you feel you must "confess," disclose it to your spiritual adviser or someone you can trust who is closer to you than I am. Personally, considering the state of your husband's health, I think the choice you made was the correct one.

DEAR ABBY: I've been dating my widower boyfriend for four years, and for my birthday this year he gave me an inexpensive tea kettle. (I don't drink tea.) I had been hinting that I would love a piece of fine jewelry because I have never received anything like that from him. Should I say something? A pretty necklace or a bottle of my favorite cologne are things I would have preferred—something thoughtful and meaningful. I feel sad and unappreciated.

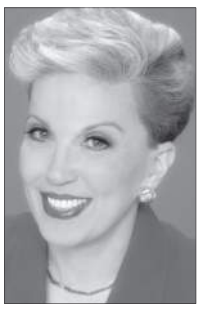
ANONYMOUS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ANONYMOUS: You appear to be involved with someone who has little imagination or is frugal to a fault. Tell your widower boyfriend (of four years) how you felt about receiving a kettle for your birthday, because you hoped for something that showed he had given more thought to what you might prefer. Then, instead of hinting, educate him about the items on your wish list when your next birthday rolls around.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

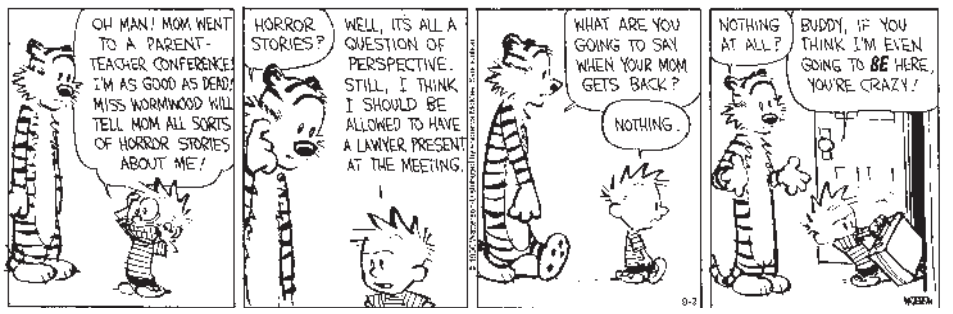


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


OH MAN! MOM WENT TO A PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE! I'M AS GOOD AS DEAD! MISS WORMWOOD WILL TELL MOM ALL SORTS OF HORROR STORIES ABOUT ME!
HORROR STORIES?
WELL, IT'S ALL A QUESTION OF PERSPECTIVE. STILL, I THINK I SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HAVE A LAWYER PRESENT AT THE MEETING.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY WHEN YOUR MOM GETS BACK?
NOTHING.
NOTHING AT ALL?
BUDDY, IF YOU THINK I'M EVEN GOING TO BE HERE, YOU'RE CRAZY!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

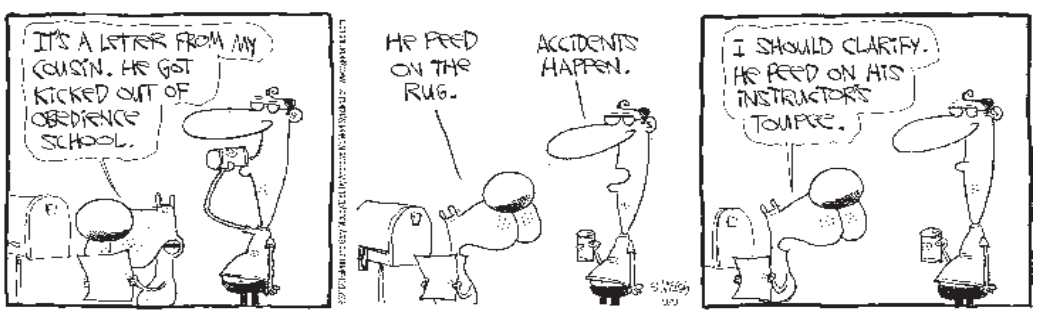
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

THE MESSING BEGINS
HEY, CARLTON! DAD SAID TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH.
WHO'S CARLTON?
UM... YOU ARE. WEIRDO.
MY NAME IS CLAYTON, DING-DONG.
CARLTON! STOP MESSING WITH YOUR SISTER!
9-9

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


IT'S A LETTER FROM MY COUSIN. HE GOT KICKED OUT OF OBEDIENCE SCHOOL.
HE PEED ON THE RUG.
ACCIDENTS HAPPEN.
I SHOULD CLARIFY. HE PEED ON HIS INSTRUCTOR'S TOUPEE.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Not impressed"
4 Cooking fuel
7 Roman censor
8 Not hollow
10 — Heights (Mideast region)
11 Aviator Earhart
13 Striped buzzers
16 Rx writers
17 Peruses
18 TV schedule abbr.
19 Nerd's kin
20 Potatoes partner
21 Encrypted
23 Humor columnist Dave
25 Ms. Streisand, to fans
26 Green shade
27 401(k) alternative
28 Cook eggs in water
30 Greyhound vehicle
33 Attire for pilots
36 Rio Grande city
37 Diva's solos
38 Thrifty person
39 Close by
40 Debussy's "La —"
41 Compass dir.

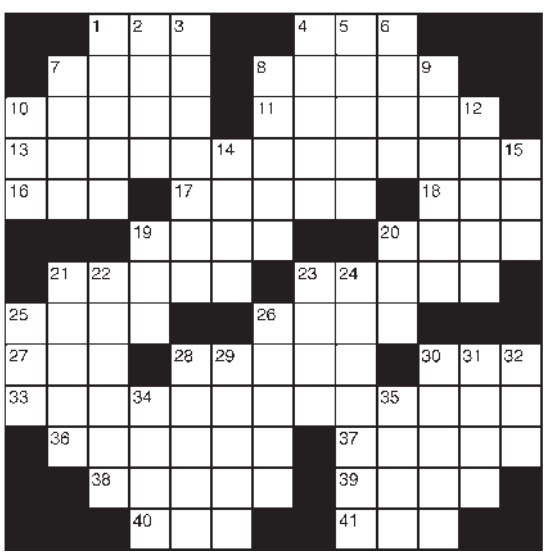
DOWN

1 Shopping meccas
2 And others (Lat.)
3 Award recipient
4 Flip out
5 Baldwin and Guinness
6 Lingerie fabric
7 Not single-sex
8 "Wheel of Fortune" host
9 Good loser?
10 Workout site
12 In check
14 Garden intruder
15 Perched
19 Dept. store inventory
20 "— Doubtfire"
21 Yule tune
22 First family of 2010
23 — Raton
24 Trash holders
25 Spill catcher
26 College study
28 Irritate
29 Sequence
30 Ecru
31 Beehive State
32 Snake's warning
34 "Dracula" author Stoker
35 Mr. Kringle

Solution time: 23 mins.

H	C	A	R		C	D	S		C	S	H	A
A	B	L	E		C	O	T		P		U	S
L	O	O	S		O	N	E	-	E	N	T	H
O	N	E	C	E	N	-		A	R	G	U	E
			U	N	O		A	M	A			
L		N	E	D		O	N	E	S	-	O	P
E	N	E			P	O	T			A	R	A
C	N	E	H	A	_	F		P	A	G	E	D
			I	C	Y		A	R	C			
P	E	N	N	E		O	N	E	H	O	U	R
C	N	E	T	P	A	C	K		I	L	S	A
L	Y	R	E		S	-	_		N	E	S	T
L	A	D	D		P	O	E		G	O	R	E

Yesterday's answer 9-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Michelle Williams, 40; Eric Stonestreet, 49; Adam Sandler, 54; Hugh Grant, 60.

Happy Birthday: Take the initiative, and do what makes you happy. A change you face will challenge you to live life to the fullest. Don't sit back when you should be moving forward and embracing what life has to offer. Expand your interests, knowledge and circle of friends. Delve into unique projects that encourage you to use your creative imagination. Your numbers are 5, 12, 22, 26, 31, 38, 42.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Let the past be the barometer that helps you move forward without hesitation. New beginnings are overdue, and having a positive, forward-thinking attitude will make whatever transition you pursue easier. Love and romance are on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You'll second-guess the decisions you make if you are impulsive. You have more options than you realize. Take a moment to discover the possibilities. Slow down, and follow the path that leads to peace of mind and long-term happiness. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Someone will play with your emotions if you are gullible or too accommodating. Take a step back, and question the motives behind any requests that someone makes. Use your intelligence, and you will recognize what's best for you. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look for the right moment to make a change. Be direct regarding your plans to deter anyone from intervening at an inconvenient moment. Someone from your past will entice you to consider something that isn't in your best interest. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You'll capture interest with your charm. Present and market your idea to those who are in a position to help you reach your goal. Pick up the pace, stay in shape and pay attention to your health and well-being. Romance is favored. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Someone will raise issues, suggesting you reconsider your options. The insight provided will lead to an emotional moment that requires honesty and the need to put the past behind you. Embrace the future wholeheartedly. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You can resolve sensitive issues if you have a positive attitude. Offer alternatives that will benefit everyone and compromises that accommodate your suggestions. Personal improvements will lift your spirits. Intellectual and emotional connections look promising. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't let a change of plans ruin your day. Take precautions when dealing with situations that have a risk factor involved. Make your health and well-being priorities. Someone who has helped you will ask for a favor. Pay it forward. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Make professional moves or form partnership. Review money matters to ensure you're financially stable before making expenses that are not necessary. Someone will take advantage of you if you're gullible. Make romance a priority. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Take time to explain yourself and your actions to someone you love. Unfinished business needs to be dealt with openly and honestly. A change at home will give you a new lease on life. Consider the possibilities, and put a strategy in place. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* You'll face uncertainty regarding personal matters, relationships and domestic issues. Refuse to let an outsider interfere in your business or your decisions. Protect your position, health and reputation. Focus on self-improvement and nurturing meaningful relationships. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* An emotional debate will be debilitating. Take a step back from a situation you face with a friend, lover or relative, and consider the consequences before you say something you regret. Compassion will be necessary to avoid a dispute. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, forceful and ambitious. You are steadfast and productive.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

			4	1	5			
		3				4		
		8				6		
	2	6	7	5	4	9	1	
	8						2	
	7			3			6	
	3			7			4	
	6						9	
		4	5	9	8	2		

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

1	2	6	3	8	9	4	5	7
7	4	3	1	2	5	8	9	6
9	5	8	6	7	4	2	3	1
3	8	4	9	6	7	1	2	5
6	1	9	2	5	8	3	7	4
5	7	2	4	3	1	9	6	8
2	6	1	7	4	3	5	8	9
4	3	5	8	9	6	7	1	2
8	9	7	5	1	2	6	4	3

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

GIVE IT A GOOD SCRATCH — Solution: 11 letters

P	E	C	A	F	E	D	E	S	T	R	O	Y	S	E
S	S	K	I	N	N	S	E	S	E	C	R	E	I	P
W	B	A	I	I	C	V	T	S	G	A	M	T	C	I
A	E	U	R	O	I	E	G	T	Z	U	C	F	O	W
L	P	G	R	H	R	N	A	E	F	H	B	E	M	E
C	A	E	E	A	I	R	S	R	T	C	L	G	P	G
B	R	I	S	K	N	E	E	R	L	D	S	U	R	A
M	C	E	R	I	D	P	A	E	E	D	I	O	E	S
I	S	A	S	A	O	U	A	L	E	M	O	G	S	H
A	M	H	R	E	M	N	S	L	L	V	O	G	S	F
M	R	B	F	A	S	C	E	L	E	E	P	V	F	A
E	A	A	T	L	O	T	R	A	E	T	R	U	E	B
Z	H	I	I	U	E	U	M	A	E	R	C	G	O	R
C	Z	A	R	S	E	R	O	D	E	S	O	H	Y	I
E	N	G	R	A	V	E	C	A	F	R	U	S	D	C

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Abrade, Allergy, Brisk, Bugs, Chafe, Claws, Clean, Compress, Cream, Deface, Deletes, Destroys, Digs, Eczema, Engrave, Erase, Erodes, Etch, Fabric, Gash, Gouge, Grind, Groove, Harms, Hives, Itch, Markings, Maim, Nails, Noise, Peel, Perfumes, Pierce, Puncture, Rasp, Razes, Remove, Rubs, Score, Scour, Scrape, Scuff, Skin, Surface, Tarnish, Tear, Traumatize, Wipe

Yesterday's Answer: Healthy

Treasuries 24 through 41 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

Celtics roll in Game 5, near series win

FLORIDA (AP)—The game plan from Boston coach Brad Stevens was simple: Start things off with an increased effort on defense to set an immediate tone.

The Celtics did exactly as he asked—and put the reigning NBA champions on the ropes.

Jaylen Brown scored 27 points and the Celtics never trailed, rolling past the Toronto Raptors 111-89 in Game 5 of their Eastern Conference semifinal series on Monday night.

Boston now leads the series 3-2 and can earn a trip to the East finals on Wednesday.

"We were playing with great purpose," Stevens said. "You could feel that from the get-go."

Kemba Walker scored 21 for the Celtics, whose starters outscored Toronto's starters by a whopping 93-45. Jayson Tatum scored 18, Daniel Theis and Brad Wanamaker each had 15 and Marcus Smart added 12 for Boston.

"The job's not finished yet," Brown said. "We've still got a lot of work that needs to be done."

Fred VanVleet scored 18 for Toronto, which trailed by as many as 30. Norman Powell scored 16 for the Raptors, while Pascal Siakam and Kyle Lowry managed 10 points apiece. Matt Thomas also had 10 for Toronto.

Here's what Toronto got out of its first 18 possessions: five points on 2-for-15 shooting, a stretch that included everything from missed open layups to airballed contested jumpers, along with five turnovers in the game's first 8:53.

"I know it sounds crazy .. but I thought our offense was awesome for like the first eight minutes," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "I thought it was awesome. I don't think those shots could have been more open."

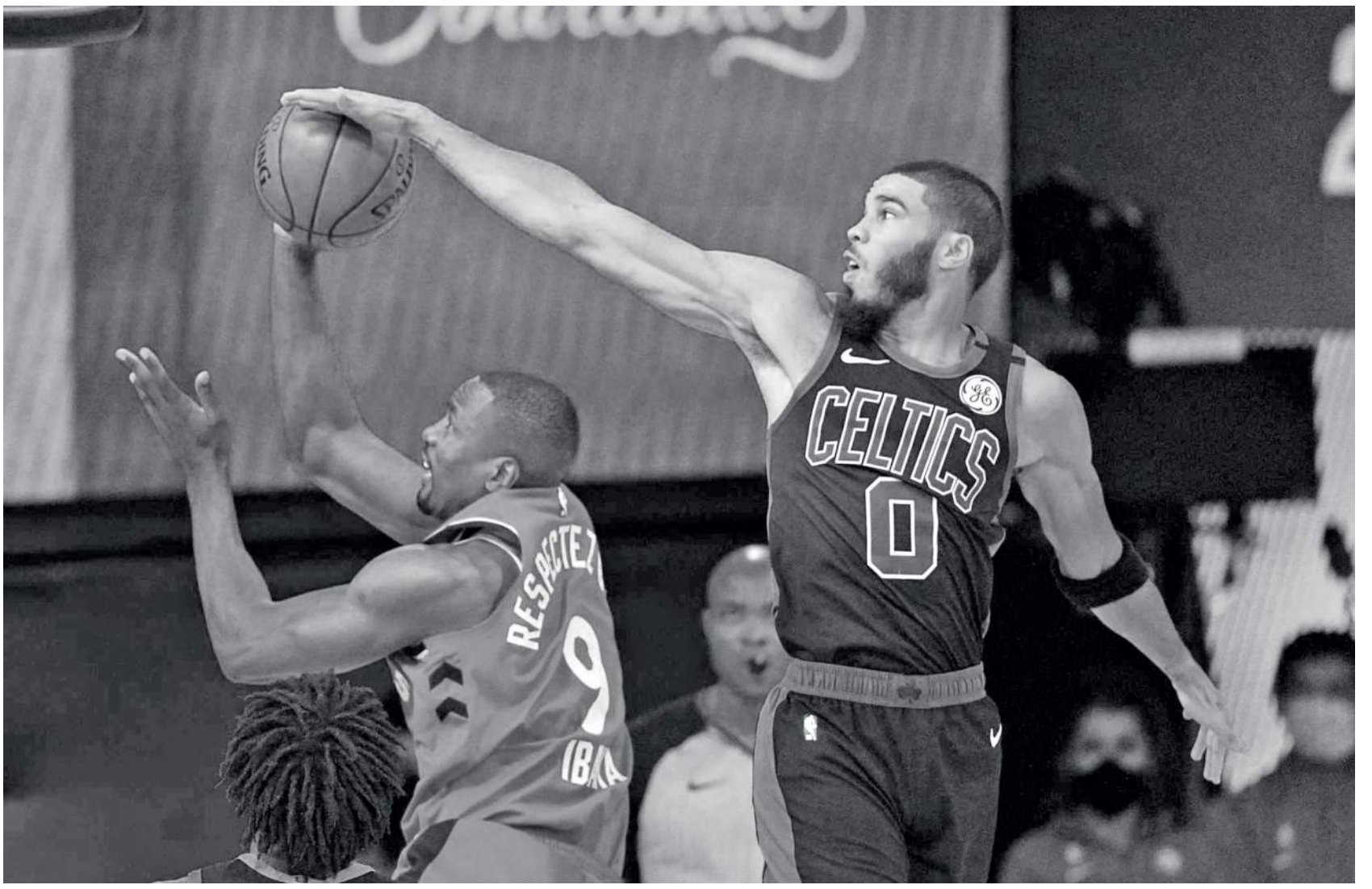
They were down 18-5 after all that, and it got worse in a hurry.

Another big scoring run—this time, 23-7—in the second quarter pushed Boston's lead from 37-25 to 60-32 late in the half. The Raptors had gone 5-for-6 from the field just before that spurt began and seemed to be getting in a rhythm; they missed 11 of their next 13 shots and things got out of hand.

"Tonight our defense really set up our offense," Walker said. "It worked out for us."

Toronto outscored Boston 28-25 in the third and it already didn't matter; the Celtics' lead was 87-63 going into the fourth.

"We just didn't play crisp enough," Lowry said. "We didn't look at the rim early enough in the shot clock to attack. But it happens. Now we got to watch the film and make adjustments and play for our lives."



AP

Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum (0) blocks the shot of Toronto Raptors' Serge Ibaka (9) during the second half of an NBA conference semifinal playoff game Monday, Sept. 7, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

Clippers lead Nuggets

Kawhi Leonard blocked a dunk at the rim with one finger. It was part of a defensive effort that deserved a big hand for propelling the Los Angeles Clippers down the stretch.

Paul George scored 32 points, Leonard added 23 along with a big late block and the dynamic duo helped the Clippers rally for a 113-107 win over the Denver Nuggets in Game 3 of their Western Conference semifinal series Monday night.

Leonard did a little bit of everything as he grabbed 14 rebounds and dished out six assists. He also had two blocks, including one late on a dunk attempt by Jamal Murray at the rim. Leonard's middle finger appeared to get just enough of the ball to keep it out of the basket.

"I didn't know it was one finger. It was a heck of a play. It was impressive," Clippers coach Doc Rivers said. "I didn't even know where he came from. It was a heck of a play."

Los Angeles takes a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. Game 4 is Wednesday.

With his team trailing 97-90 early in the fourth quarter, Rivers called a timeout to calm down the Clippers. Fueled by defense, Los Angeles went on a 14-4 run to take a 104-101 lead. The Clippers wouldn't trail again.

"The game came down to one of the two teams was going to play some defense," Rivers said. "For 3 1/2 quarters both teams were basically scoring. In the last six minutes it was our defense. We had our lapses. There's no doubt about that. But overall, when we locked in we were really good."

Bucks hoping for Giannis' return

The Milwaukee Bucks will play another day.

They're waiting to see if reigning NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo will join them.

It's still a dire situation for the team that had the league's best regular-season record this season—they're down 3-1 in the Eastern Conference semifinals to the Miami Heat, with another win-or-go-home test awaiting in Game 5 on Tuesday night. And they don't know if Antetokounmpo, who sprained his right ankle in Game 3 and then again in Game 4, will be ready.

"There's hope," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "We're not ruling him out, so I guess until he's ruled out you have hope. He's going to do everything he can to make himself available."

Also Tuesday: Game 3 of the Western Conference semifinals, with that matchup between the Los Angeles Lakers and Houston Rockets tied at a game apiece.

Antetokounmpo was with the Bucks for their light practice Monday. He got treatment on the ankle, then left wearing a protective boot over his right foot—a standard practice with sprains to keep the injured area from bearing weight.

The Bucks won Game 4 without him for the most part, beating the Heat in overtime. The NBA acknowledged Monday that two fouls should have been called on the Bucks late in regulation, including one that would have put Jimmy Butler on the foul line with 24 seconds left and the Heat leading by a point. Donte DiVincenzo made a free throw on the next Milwaukee possession to force overtime.

Saints' leapfrog in Clowney sign-and-trade

NEW ORLEANS—The New Orleans Saints nearly made NFL history in attempting the first sign-and-trade maneuver in football over the weekend, angling to swap a draft pick and player with another team that would have agreed to foot the bill against the salary cap for free agent pass rusher Jadeveon Clowney. But the NFL office reportedly wouldn't approve such a deal, and Clowney ended up signing outright with the Tennessee Titans.

But it might be for the best that the Saints didn't get the green light from the league office they were looking for. Mike Florio reported for NBC Sports that if the Saints had received league approval for a Clowney sign-and-trade, another pair of teams were standing by to pull off the same trick before the Saints would be able to: the Baltimore Ravens.

NFL Network's Ian Rapoport confirmed that report, clarifying that the Ravens had been exploring a similar proposal with the Jacksonville Jaguars before the NFL squashed the Saints' attempt. It's anyone guess where the Ravens got wind of these negotiations, but they were among Clowney's preferred teams and, like the Saints, running short on salary cap space. It makes sense that they would have tried to take a leaf from New Orleans' playbook.

Now that the Tennessee Titans finally have Clowney, and Vic Beasley Jr., too, it's up to coach Mike Vrabel and his assistants to figure out how much they can get from both outside linebackers starting when they open the season in Denver.

"It's great to add pieces," Vrabel said. "And again, we're just set to see where everybody fits in."

Vrabel said Monday that Clowney has started the testing process, and later in the day the outside linebacker signed his contract. The hope is for Clowney to get into the building sometime Tuesday and see where he is at physically to start practicing.

"He hasn't even looked at our playbook yet," Vrabel said. "So for for us to start to figure out what the versatility is, we're familiar with the player's skill set, with J.D.'s skill set and where he may potentially fit is all going to depend on how much he can handle."

Both Vrabel and Clowney know each other pretty well. Vrabel coached linebackers in Houston between 2014 and 2016 during Clowney's first three seasons in the NFL after being drated No. 1 overall in 2014. He was defensive coordinator during Clowney's best season in 2017 with a career-high 9 1/2 sacks.

Vrabel expects some familiarity for Clowney with what the Titans are doing on defense and noted the linebacker has a really good football I.Q., was able to handle what coaches asked of him in the past. ***(AP/NBC)***

Serena avenges loss, reaches quarterfinals

NEW YORK (AP)—Her breathing loud enough to hear in an empty Arthur Ashe Stadium, her third-set deficit a point from growing to 3-1 against someone who beat her less than two weeks earlier, Serena Williams scrambled to extend a 13-stroke exchange until her opponent netted a forehand.

"Keep fighting!" Williams exhorted herself.

Locked in a tough fourth-round match Monday, and without the benefit of a pro-American audience, Williams provided her own encouragement along the way to coming back and beating 15th-seeded Maria Sakkari of Greece 6-3, 6-7 (6), 6-3, reaching the quarterfinals in a 12th consecutive appearance at Flushing Meadows.

"I feel like I'm pretty vocal with or without a crowd. ... I'm super passionate. This is my job. This is what I wake up to do. This is what I train to do, 365 days of the year," said Williams, who moved a step closer to a record-tying 24th Grand Slam title.

"Yeah, I'm always going to bring that fire and that passion," she continued, "and that 'Serena' to the court."

When the match ended, after Williams collected six of the last seven games, she turned and yelled toward her husband, who stood at his front-row seat and yelled right back.

How tight was this contest? Sakkari produced more aces than Williams, 13-12, and more total winners, 35-30.

Williams was two points from victory at 6-all in the second-set tiebreaker, but faltered there, sending a backhand return long to give Sakkari her fifth set point, then pushing a forehand out.

But as is so often the case, when the outcome was hanging in the balance in the third set, which Sakkari led 2-0 but couldn't quite get to 3-1, Williams was better down the stretch, when it mattered the most.

"I have to be deadly honest: I wasn't brave enough in the third set. I kind of like, not choked, but didn't (convert) my chances," Sakkari said. "And if you don't get your chances with a good Serena against you, it's done."

AP
Serena Williams of the United States serves to Maria Sakkari of Greece during their game in the US Open tennis championships, Monday, Sept. 7, 2020, in New York.

This was a rematch from Aug. 25, when Williams faded after building a lead and lost in three sets to Sakkari at the Western & Southern Open, a hard-court tournament usually held in Ohio but moved to the U.S. Open site as part of a two-tournament "controlled environment" without spectators amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"Of course I thought about (the loss), but ever so little, because it's a completely different match, completely different scenario, completely different moment," Williams said.

In the earlier one, Williams' legs were cramping by the end, and she blamed herself for that situation, memorably declaring: "I put myself in a bad situation. It's like dating a guy that you know sucks."

Asked about that line Monday, Williams joked: "Thank God, I got rid of that guy. Never want to see him again. He was the worst."

That setback made the American 3-2 since tennis returned from its COVID-19 hiatus, all three-setters. And since? She is 4-0 at the U.S. Open.

Williams, who turns 39 in less than three weeks, will face unseeded Tsvetana Pironkova for a semifinal berth.

Playing in her first tournament in more than three years after taking time off to have a child, the 32-year-old Pironkova advanced with a 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-3 victory over Alize Cornet.

No. 16 seed Elise Mertens knocked off second-seeded Sofia Kenin 6-3, 6-3 to reach the quarterfinals of the tournament for the second year in a row and deny the American a chance for back-to-back Grand Slam titles.

Kenin won the Australian Open and was trying to become the first with two straight Grand Slam titles since Naomi Osaka won the 2018 U.S. Open and the 2019 Australian Open.

Mertens will face Victoria Azarenka, who beat No. 20 Karolina Muchova 5-7, 6-1, 6-4 for her ninth straight win. Azarenka won the Western & Southern Open that was played in New York as an in-the-bubble warm-up for the U.S. Open.

In men's action, where Novak Djokovic's default on Sunday left zero past Grand Slam champions in the bracket, No. 2 seed Dominic Thiem moved into the quarterfinals by claiming a close first set and then running away with a 7-6 (4), 6-1, 6-1 win against No. 15 Felix Auger-Aliassime.

Thiem, a three-time major runner-up, now meets first-time Slam quarterfinalist Alex de Minaur, a 21-year-old Australian who eliminated Vasek Pospisil 7-6 (6), 6-3, 6-2.

With the 30-year-old Pospisil gone, this will be the first U.S. Open since 2010 without at least one male quarterfinalist who is beyond his 20s.

Johnson cashes in and finally rules FedEx Cup

ATLANTA (AP)—Dustin Johnson only looks like he plays without a pulse. Beneath his stoic stare and that swagger as he walked the fairways of East Lake were jangled nerves Monday because it meant so much to him.

The $15 million prize for winning the FedEx Cup? That would get anyone's attention, especially someone who thought he was rich when Johnson cashed his first tournament check as a PGA Tour rookie for $113,571.

But there was more.

"The prestige, for sure," Johnson said after delivering a key par putt and steady play down the stretch for a 2-under 68 and a three-shot victory in the Tour Championship.

"Being a FedEx Cup champion is something that I really wanted to do. I wanted to hold that trophy at the end of the day," Johnson said. "It was something that I wanted to accomplish during my career."

He did it by hitting his stride at just the right time.

He won two of the three FedEx Cup postseason events and lost in a playoff by a 65-foot putt in the other. It all came down to the final day of the final event, and even with a five-shot lead, it was never easy.

Xander Schauffele and Justin Thomas each got within three shots on the front nine. They each got within two shots of Johnson with two holes to play. He never let them catch them, and his only birdie of the back nine on the final hole gave him his third victory since June and the 23rd of his PGA Tour career.

"It's a very tough trophy to win," Johnson said. "I controlled my own destiny, but I still had to go out and play well. I had a lot of great players right behind me. It got close at the end. I knew it was going to come down the stretch and I'd have to hit some golf shots."

None were bigger than the 20-foot par putt on the 13th hole to keep his lead at three shots, the 5-iron safely on the green on the toughest hole at East Lake, another 5-iron over the water on the par-3 15th—the one hole where big numbers lurk—and a wedge out of a deep bunker and onto the green at the 16th.

"This is a tough golf course. No lead is safe," Johnson said. "The guys gave me a good fight today."

Johnson became the first No. 1 seed at the Tour Championship to win the FedEx Cup since Tiger Woods in 2009. Now he has his name etched on the silver trophy alongside some of the best from his generation, starting with Woods and most recently Rory McIlroy, with Hall of Famers, major champions and former world No. 1 players in between.

Schauffele, who tends to bring his best golf to big moments, cut the lead to two shots when both had to scramble for par on the 13th. Schauffele missed his par putt from 25 feet, and Johnson rammed his in.

"He's here to win the tournament," said Schauffele, who closed with a 66 and had the lowest 72-hole score of the tournament at 265. "He made that putt. I didn't. That was a pinnacle moment."

Thomas made bogey from a wild tee shot to the right on the 17th. Schauffele also had to scramble on the 17th, escaping with par after a tee shot into the bunker. And on the par-5 18th, Johnson unleashed a drive that started left along the pine trees and faded gently toward the middle of the fairway.

That set up a birdie from the front bunker, a hug with brother Austin, his caddie, and a trophy he long wanted.

Johnson was staked to a five-shot lead at 19-under par—9 under on his own score and starting the tournament at 10 under as the No. 1 seed in the FedEx Cup. He finished at 21 under.

Schauffele and Thomas tied for second, each earning $4.5 million.

Jon Rahm, the No. 2 seed, closed with a 66 to finish fourth and earn $3 million. Scottie Scheffler, who a year ago was getting ready to start his rookie year, had a 66-65 finish and was fifth for a $2.5 million payoff.

And so wrapped up the strangest season on the PGA Tour, which doesn't feel like the end at all except for the $15 million awarded to Johnson, $14 million now and $1 million deferred.

The new season starts Thursday. Two majors are still to be played.

Golf was shut down for three months and when it restarted, Johnson was No. 111 in the FedEx Cup. He won the Travelers Championship. He followed with a pair of 80s in the Memorial and then a 78 at the 3M Open in Minnesota before he withdrew because he wasn't feeling quite right.

Nationals down Rays with makeshift lineup

WASHINGTON (AP)— For one night in this dud of a season for Washington, the defending World Series champion Nationals looked like themselves—getting a solid start from Max Scherzer, timely hitting and crisp defense.

That they did it with recently signed utilityman Brock Holt batting third and banged-up catcher Kurt Suzuki as the cleanup hitter shows just how awry things have gone for the Nationals in 2020.

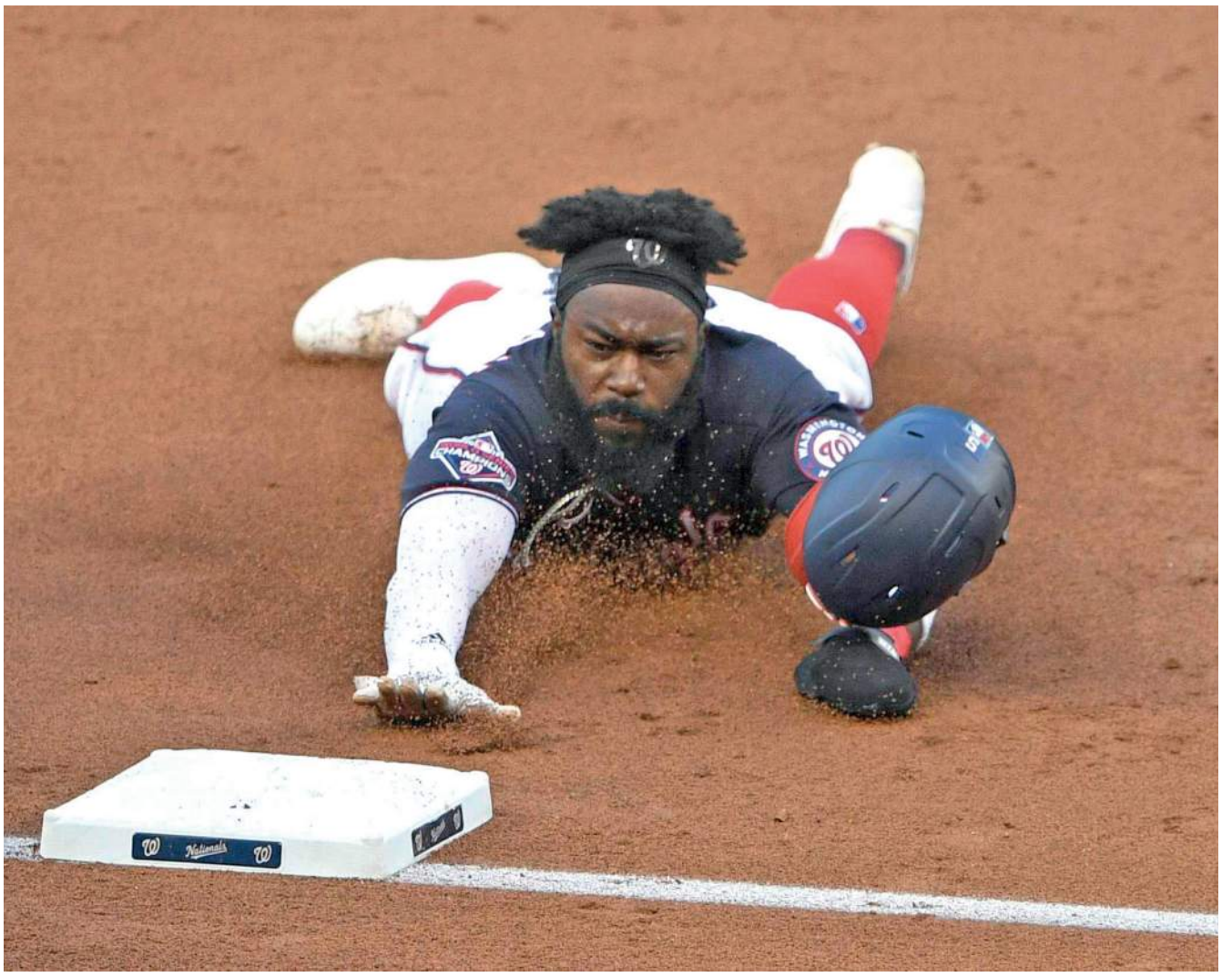
"Nothing's normal this year," Scherzer said.

Scherzer cooled off Tampa Bay with seven scoreless innings, and the Nationals beat the AL East-leading Rays 6-1 on Monday night.

Suzuki had an RBI double among his three hits and Michael A. Taylor drove in two runs for the last-place Nationals, who were missing several regulars and started Holt at designated hitter for the sixth time in his career. Holt went 2 for 4 with a double and has nine hits over his past three games.

"I always admired the way he played the game from the other side, playing against him, always thought he was a tough out, puts the ball in play, plays all the positions, great teammate," Suzuki said of Holt, who signed with Washington in late August after the Brewers released him. "He's fun to have in the lineup. He's a little spark plug for us."

Scherzer (4-2) stranded six baserunners in the first four innings before settling in and retiring 10 straight batters in one stretch. The three-time Cy Young Award winner allowed six hits, struck out eight and walked one in his second-longest outing of the season.



AP

Washington Nationals' Josh Harrison slides into third base on a single by Eric Thames during the second inning of a baseball game against the Tampa Bay Rays, Monday, Sept. 7, 2020, in Washington.

Athletics 6, Astros 0

Sean Murphy homered and hit a two-run single to help Chris Bassitt snap a three-start winless stretch, and Oakland beat Houston with both teams missing star players.

Tony Kemp added an RBI double for the AL West-leading A's (24-14) against his former club in the first of five games over four days between the division rivals. Ramón Laureano provided insurance with a seventh-inning sacrifice fly and Stephen Piscotty singled home a run in the eighth.

Twins 6, Tigers 2

Ryan Jeffers hit his first major league homer to spark Minnesota's four-run third inning, and Michael Pineda stayed sharp in his return from suspension.

Pineda (1-0) pitched seven innings of two-run ball in his first victory since Sept. 1, 2019. After serving a 60-game penalty for taking a banned weight-loss drug, Pineda debuted last week with six innings and a no-decision as the Twins beat Chicago.

Indians 5, Royals 2

Zach Plesac won his second straight start since returning to Cleveland's rotation after a demotion for breaking team COVID-19 protocols, and the Indians handed the Royals their season-high seventh straight loss.

Plesac (3-1) permitted one run—Adalberto Mondesi's 458-foot homer in the seventh—and seven hits in seven innings. Brad Hand struck out the side in the ninth for his 12th save.

Mariners 8, Rangers 4

Kyle Seager and Dylan Moore homered, and the Mariners beat the Rangers for their first six-game win streak since July 2019.

Moore also had a three-run double. Marco Gonzales (5-2) struck out seven while pitching seven innings of two-run ball.

Seattle completed a four-game sweep of Texas, which has lost six straight. The Mariners are 11-3 after an 8-19 start.

Cubs 5, Cardinals 1

Kyle Hendricks went eight innings, helping the NL Central-leading Cubs to the victory.

The Cubs got just the sort of start they needed from Hendricks and closed out the five-game series on a winning note after losing three straight. They lead their longtime rivals by 2 1/2 games.

Hendricks (5-4) gave up a run and seven hits in his second straight win.

Javier Báez had three singles, helping the Cubs earn a split of the 10-game season series against the Cardinals.

Padres 1, Rockies 0

Jurickson Profar hit an RBI double with no outs in the ninth inning for San Diego, which got a brilliant performance from right-hander Dinelson Lamet to beat Colorado for its sixth victory in eight games.

Pinch-hitter Greg Garcia started the winning rally when he poked an opposite-field single past third baseman Nolan Arenado leading off the ninth. He was replaced by pinch-runner Jorge Mateo, who scored on Profar's double to right off Carlos Estévez.

Marlins 5, Braves 4, 10 innings

Miguel Rojas had four hits for Miami, including a go-ahead double in the 10th inning.

Atlanta's Adam Duvall led off the ninth with a tying pinch-hit homer off Brandon Kintzler (2-3), the closer's second blown save in 11 chances.

Garrett Cooper opened the 10th as Miami's designated runner at second and advanced on Jon Berti's sacrifice.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 2

Kevin Gausman and three relievers combined on a three-hitter, and San Francisco ended pitcher Zac Gallen's record-setting streak to begin his career in a win over Arizona.

Darin Ruf hit a two-run single in the sixth and Brandon Belt had a bases-loaded walk as the Giants won for the sixth time in eight games.

'THE CRANK'

From Page 20

which will feature Invicta FC atomweight champion Michelle Waterson and former Invicta FC strawweight titlist Angela Hill. The UFC Fight Night 177's main event was supposed to have Thiago Santos face Glover Teixeira in the light heavyweight class, but that headliner has been moved to next month after the latter was tested positive for COVID-19.

There will be 10 supporting bouts in the UFC Fight Night 177, including the duel between Matt Frevola and Roberts. Incidentally, Frevola was Camacho's original foe in the UFC Fight Night 173 before UFC newcomer Justin Jaynes came in, as the former was pulled out from the fight card after his cornerman tested positive for the coronavirus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Brok "Chata Tuska" Weaver, right, takes a hit from Roosevelt Roberts during the first round of their bout in the UFC on ESPN 9 held last May in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Camacho lost to Jaynes and eyes to recover from back-to-back defeats and finish his second contract with UFC on a winning note to boost his chances of getting a fresh deal from the biggest MMA promotion company in the world.

BJJ

From Page 20

Gym while adhering to safety measures set by authorities.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Alvarez's BJJ classes drew more than 50 participants with 30 kids enrolled in the program and 25 adults. Then when restrictions were imposed starting in March to minimize the spread of the virus, Trench Tech was forced to temporarily cease its operations and remained closed until July.

Last month, when the CNMI reached Community Vulnerability Level Blue, Trench Tech resumed its operations, but it lasted for only about three weeks and the number of people attending its regular BJJ classes was cut down into half.

The islands are back to Community Vulnerability Level Blue, a step away from the safest level, which is Green, and with limits on business hours and in-person interactions now lifted, Trench Tech is ready to welcome back BJJ practitioners and help them stay in shape and improve their skills.

Trench Tech, besides following the government's safety guidelines, will also be implementing its own set of protocols for the health and welfare of the people training at the gym.

Since it started offering BJJ classes a few years ago, the number of practitioners of the mixed martial arts on island has grown and many of them received promotions. The recent ones were Lo Itibus, Ray Santos, and Pali Rovnan, who got their blue belts in July.

Celtics roll in Game 5, near series win

PAGE 17

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Serena avenges loss, reaches quarterfinals

PAGE 18

‘The Crank’ favored vs ‘Chata Tuska’

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MMA JUNKIE PHOTO

In this 2019 file photo, Frank “The Crank” Camacho, left, swings at Nick Hein during their lightweight bout in the UFC Fight Night 153 in Stockholm, Sweden.

A website for fans of the Ultimate Fighting Championship, MMA, boxing, and other combat sports around the world marked Frank “The Crank” Camacho as the moderate favorite when he meets Brok “Chata Tuska” Weaver in the UFC Fight Night 177 in Las Vegas, Nevada on Sept. 12.

Tapology had Camacho getting -225 on betting odds against Weaver’s +175 as slight underdog. A negative odd, in sports, means that athlete or team is more likely to win the match and placing a bet on that outcome would payout less than the amount one wagered. A positive odd is given to the one that is less likely to get the victory, but if he does, the payout would be more than the amount wagered.

Pundits picked the Marianas warrior over the Alabama fighter because he has more UFC experience than Weaver. Although Camacho has only two wins out of his seven UFC bouts, an MMA fan commented on Tapology how the 31-year-old slugged it out with China’s Jingliang Li in his UFC debut in Singapore, brawled American Drew Dober in North Carolina, and hammered Germany’s Nick Hein in Sweden.

As for Weaver, he hasn’t proven anything yet in the UFC stage, as he won his first fight (versus Rodrigo Vargas) in February this year via disqualification (illegal knee) and was badly beaten by Roosevelt Roberts in his quick return (May 30) to the octagon cage.

A Tapology reader also commented how a battle on the ground would work on Camacho’s favor, as the island warrior has improved his grappling and wrestling skills in the past years. A standup duel, on the other hand, is Weaver’s trademark and the 28-year-old boasted how he has developed deadlier striking skills in recent interviews with MMA websites.

Both Camacho and Weaver went into a training camp before heading to Las Vegas for this weekend’s bout (Monday on Saipan) with the former working out with Team Oyama in California and the latter in Florida with American Top Team.

The Camacho-Weaver lightweight tussle is lined up as the third supporting bout in the UFC Fight Night 177,

See 'THE CRANK' on Page 19

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Frank “The Crank” Camacho gets his hands done by one of his cornermen before going into the UFC cage last year.

BJJ classes at Trench Tech resume

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu classes at the Trench Tech Gym are back, as the temporary restrictions on social gatherings, including sports-related activities, have been lifted last Sunday.

Black belt and BJJ professor Cuki Alvarez said classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30pm to 8pm and are open for adults just for now.

“I show the class techniques and we drill with partners or we can drill with a dummy or a punching bag or can even do it solo,” said Alvarez, who hopes to rebuild the membership of the BJJ classes at the Trench Tech

See BJJ on Page 19

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In this file photo, Clinton Dela Cruz, back, choke-holds Vince Masga during a BJJ training session at the Trench Tech Gym in Garapan.